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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you attended or do you plan to attend the public hearing for the Saipan casino bill?

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INSIDE



Give Opportunity

NMTI founder Anthony Pellegrino appealed to the business sector and the community to give the institution's students a "chance" to prove themselves.

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Food Crisis

Vo Thi Quan's chopsticks needle deftly between two simple Vietnamese dishes sizzling on a hot plate.

Focus...Page 17



New Single

Christina Aguilera and Adam Levine of NBC's talent show "The Voice" are putting their voices together on a new Maroon 5 single.

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MHS posts historic mark in SAT 10. PAGE 2
NMC spent \$9,500 for professional fees. PAGE 3

FBI seeks info on man with facial birthmark

» **Special agent says man not a suspect or person of interest, but witness to a potential lead**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The FBI and the Department of Public Safety yesterday sought the public's help on a potential lead in the disappearance of missing sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk—a man who has a very distinctive birthmark on his right cheek.

"I would emphasize that the individual that I will speak about is not a suspect or a person of interest in this investigation. But is someone who was seen in the area during a relevant time period who may have witnessed something that might be relevant to the case," FBI special agent Tom Simon said during a media briefing near the bus stop in As Teo where the Luhk sisters were reportedly last seen on May 25, 2011.

Simon said that, on May 6, 2011 at approxi-

See FBI on Page 4



FBI special agent Tom Simon, left, holds a sketch of a man with a very distinctive birthmark on his right cheek and who could provide a potential lead in the ongoing search for missing sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk, while Department of Public Safety Commissioner Ramon Mafnas looks on, at a news conference at the bus stop area in As Teo where the sisters were reportedly last seen in the morning of May 25. Simon, who is the FBI Honolulu media relations coordinator, said the man with the birthmark was seen on May 6, around 10:30pm, driving in the area on a white four-door car with some body damage on the front passenger side. **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**

CIP Office to Senate: \$34M in CIPs will be spent in two years

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Amid criticism that capital improvement projects move slowly, one of three agencies tasked to administer CIP funds told the Senate that \$34 million of some \$37.5 million in grant awards will be spent in fiscal years 2011 and 2012 to include the Puerto Rico Dump closure and construction of the Rota and Tinian landfills.

Thirty-one of 33 projects that the Capital Improvement Project Office admin-

isters are now under contract.

CIP Office administrator Vicky Vilagomez, who is also Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's special assistant for management and budget, said total projected expenditure of \$16.3 million for 2011 alone is 43 percent of Covenant Section 702 or CIP funds that the office administers.

Another \$17.4 million in CIP money is expected to be spent in 2012.

But Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-

See **CIP** on **Page 4**

Buckingham sues Public Auditor Pai

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham has filed a lawsuit against Public Auditor Michael Pai over his hiring of two lawyers. Buckingham said such actions "threaten an imminent waste of public funds."

Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson is also named as Buckingham's co-plaintiff in the lawsuit. As-

sistant attorney general W. Allen Hazlip filed the complaint in the Superior Court on Tuesday.

Buckingham and Larson asked the court to issue judgment declaring the Office of Public Auditor's contracts for the legal services of attorneys Brian McMahon and Joseph Przyuski as invalid and unenforceable.

With respect to McMahon's contract, See **BUCKINGHAM** on **Page 4**



Pai



Buckingham



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Local

MHS posts historic mark in SAT 10

» 5 out of 8 subtest areas exceed percentile goal; outperforms national average

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Marianas High School students made history by surpassing the 50 percentile mark in five out of eight subtest areas on the Stan-

ford Achievement Test Series held last April.

MHS principal Craig Garrison yesterday said that this marks the first time in school history that students outperformed the national average on

the SAT 10.

He said no other high school in the CNMI has ever been able to break the 50 percentile rank in the complete battery of tests.

Scores of the recent SAT 10 for MHS indicated that the five

areas that exceeded the national average are mathematics which overall score is 53 percentile; science, 52 percentile; social science, 53 percentile; thinking skills, 52 percentile; and spelling, with 64 percentile.

Overall complete battery score for MHS is 51 percentile this school year 2011.

Based on Public School System's records, MHS has the following scores in SAT 10 for five school years: 2007, 37 percentile rank; 2008, 48 percentile; 2009, 46 percentile; 2010, 49 percentile; and 2011, 51 percentile.

Garrison said one of the reasons for the high SAT 10 score is the "climate of trust" established among students.

"The primary reason is that we have some amazing students who are embracing every minute of their time on campus. Add to that some incredible teachers who know that extra effort leads to higher achieve-

ment," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The principal disclosed that one of the first things he shared with the staff after taking over the school in September 2010 was his concern about the test scores.

"I knew from the research that if we could start by raising the school climate we had a good chance and this was accomplished by removing many of the barriers both physical and psychological that the students faced every day. I can see a climate of trust in the students has developed and manifested itself into a greater level of self respect and a respect for their own education through their personal empowerment," he said.

He added that the success was also because some teachers have gone above and beyond what the norm is by reaching out and connecting at different levels with the students, and showing that they care.

"Most teachers stepped up and really focused on the SAT 10 more than in the past and

genuinely seemed to express a more caring attitude towards the students," he disclosed, adding that those student and teachers who worked hard should be commended.

Saipan Tribune learned that shortly before the test dates, Garrison met with each grade level to share his vision of a great school climate and student achievement. "Instilling confidence in the student is half the battle when it comes to test taking," according to the principal.

Garrison says he knows what it takes to create a great school, although he admits that he isn't always as diplomatic as he should be in the process, he believes that time is not on the side of the children so he doesn't want to waste it.

He says he's confident that if everyone can set aside "petty and political issues" and continue to focus on the students then there is no limit to the success.

Garrison said that although the recent success on the SAT 10 is unmatched, the goal of having all the students reading at grade level by 2014 is still at arms length and that all stakeholders need to remain vigilant in achieving that goal.



SWEARING IN

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, left, swears in Ramon "Ray" Mafnas as Department of Public Safety commissioner and Larissa Larson, right, as Finance secretary during a ceremony on Tuesday afternoon, a day after the Senate confirmed the two nominees.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chamber: Unrealistic \$100 penalty on delayed payment to vendors

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce describes as "unrealistic" a bill that imposes a \$100 civil fine on government employees who fail to promptly process or pay the CNMI government's vendors and suppliers.

Chamber president Douglas Brennan said while the organization supports the intent of House Bill 17-146, it argues against unrealistic measures "until such time the CNMI can afford the penalties and actions" under the bill.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 150 members.

"While SCC finds the intent of HB 17-146 commendable and agrees with its findings where the CNMI is experiencing difficulty in paying its vendors in a timely manner, we offer that questions remain as to the ability of the CNMI government to make those timely payments on government purchases after incurring additional burden through the penalty and interest judgments as outlined in HB 17-146," Brennan said in a letter to Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

Yumul, the author of the bill, said the Chamber's concerns will be considered along with other comments received.

Once the bill becomes law, it will authorize payments "no later than 30 days after payment be-

comes due." This, however, does not include tort obligations.

In the Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee's report, it said significant delays in the receipt of invoices and the issuance of payments by the CNMI government "negatively impact a company's finances and inevitably jeopardize its operations."

The bill says it is necessary to ensure the vendors' trust by ensuring that the Department of Finance strictly adheres to processes of acceptance, timely processing, and ultimately prompt payment to vendors.

The House, however, has yet to act on the bill, over a month after the JGO Committee completed its report.

MISSING SISTERS

Last seen: As Teo, Saipan CNMI
Date missing: 6am, Wednesday, May 25, 2011
Name: Luhk, Maleina
Age: 9 years old
Height: 4 feet
Weight: 50-60 pounds
Eyes: Brown
Hair: Brown
Body: Petite
Complexion: Tan
Characteristics: Circle birthmark left cheek
Last wearing: White blouse and jeans



Last seen: As Teo, Saipan CNMI
Date missing: 6am, Wednesday, May 25, 2011
Name: Luhk, Faloma
Age: 10 years old
Height: 5.1 feet
Weight: 90 pounds
Eyes: Brown
Hair: Short brown
Body: Petite
Complexion: Tan
Last wearing: Light green shirt with a butterfly design on the front with blue jeans



DPS is seeking help from the public. Please call 911 or contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.com. Crime stoppers pays up to \$1,000.00 for any information leading to an arrest. Additional \$1,000.00 is also being offered!

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IN HIRING NEW PRESIDENT**NMC spent \$9,500 for professional fees**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas College paid the Association of Community College Trustees a total of \$9,500 in professional fees throughout the search for the college's new chief executive officer.

Through an open government act request, the college confirmed yesterday that the amount was stipulated in the contract that was signed by both parties.

The \$9,500 professional fees included five specific scopes of work from the ACCT. Among these is the advertisement of the vacancy position on the trustees' website and the receipt and review of

all applications that were submitted for the vacant post.

There were a total of 31 applications received by the trustees and which it provided seven names to the second presidential search committee for review. ACCT started its announcement of the NMC president last December 2010 after the first presidential search committee failed to name a qualified candidate.

Dr. Carmen Fernandez was suspended and later fired as president of NMC in January 2010 for alleged wrongdoings. At present, litigation is ongoing on the case.

It was in May last year when ACCT initially proposed a \$25,000 to \$30,000 contract with NMC but was disapproved by the Board of Regents.

6 aliens charged with improper entry plead not guilty

The six persons who were allegedly recruited in China and promised work in the CNMI while paroled in as tourists, all pleaded not guilty to the charge of improper entry in federal court yesterday.

Zhongjun Yu, Cuilan Ma, Chungping Li, Lifei Bian, Shoujun Yin, and Zhipeng Ren, were remanded to the Department of Corrections.

U.S. District Court for the NMI judge Alex R. Munson found the defendants to be potential flight risks as determined

by the U.S. Probation Office.

Munson set the jury trial for Aug. 15, 2011.

Attorney Joseph James Norita Camacho, court-appointed counsel for Yu, told *Saipan Tribune* that maybe the U.S. Homeland Security should invest its time and resources investigating persons who have no status and do not want to voluntarily leave the CNMI.

"I am not trying to trivialize this case but it seem a little bit silly for the Department of Homeland Security to charge someone

In a statement from the college yesterday, it said also part of the services under the ACCT contract was the preliminary background checks for the Top 3 candidates chosen by the regents, which was turned in on March 17.

After the final selection, ACCT also conducted a criminal and financial background check for the top candidate. The trustees also provided technical assistance to the regents after the final selection.

The regents made a final offer and was accepted by Dr. Sharon Hart, who will start her employment on July 5.

Meantime, interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera and regents chair Juan Lizama returned from the June 8 meet-

ing with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges where they justified the NMC's accreditation status. The decision of the commission will be

known early next month.

It was in January 2011 when WASC placed NMC under the severe sanction of continued show-cause status after it failed

to rectify all deficiencies cited by the commission. It submitted its show-cause report last March 15 and a supplemental report last May 31.

The suspect grabbed the money from the cashier's drawer and ran west toward the Beach Road area.

Piano Poker is located beside Bar and Karaoke. KW Corp. owns the poker arcade. Another cashier told *Saipan Tribune* that it is the first time that the establishment was robbed.

Tarkong said the NMI Crime Stoppers Program is offering up to \$1,000 cash for information leading to the robber's arrest. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

'Machete man' knocks down cashier, robs poker arcade

A man armed with a machete knocked down a male cashier with a punch during a robbery at a poker establishment in Garapan last Friday.

NMI Crime Stoppers Program coordinator Jason Tarkong said yesterday that the suspect managed to run away with over \$300 in cash from Piano Poker.

Tarkong described the suspect as a local male with a blue cloth covering his face and wearing a white T-shirt and blue

long pants.

Tarkong said police's investigation showed that on Friday at 4:12am, police officers responded to a reported robbery in progress at Piano Poker along Middle Road.

The victim, a 53-year-old Chinese man, was in the cashier's booth when the suspect, armed with a machete, came into the booth.

The suspect then punched the cashier on the face, knocking him down to the floor.

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Fitial accepts DLNR secretary's resignation

» as CNMI faces veterinary service shortage

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial accepted Dr. Ignacio "Ike" Dela Cruz's resignation as Department of Lands and Natural Resources secretary and named yesterday one of the DLNR division directors as temporary replacement.

Fitial designated Joaquin B. Songsong as acting DLNR secretary, a post he has been holding almost every time Dela Cruz is off-island.

Songsong is the director of the Divi-

sion of Land Registration and Survey.

But sources said Fitial may appoint former speaker and now Fish and Wildlife director Arnold I. Palacios to become DLNR secretary. Such appointment needs the advice and consent of the Senate.

Fitial allowed Palacios to travel to Hawaii for a fisheries conference, but stopped Dela Cruz from going on Tuesday, triggering the latter's resignation.

"Based on the fact that the Hawaii trip was regarding fisheries matters, the governor felt that it was more appro-

priate for the DFW director to attend," press secretary Angel Demapan said when asked for comment yesterday.

The governor, who went back to the Republican Party, earlier said Palacios would be a formidable delegate candidate for the Republicans in the 2012 elections.

Demapan said the governor has not named a replacement for Dela Cruz "this early."

Dela Cruz, in a chance interview at his DLNR office yesterday afternoon, said it was not the first time that the governor blocked his off-island travel to attend an important conference.

He said he would have wanted to personally hand his resignation letter on Tuesday afternoon to Fitial but the governor was busy with other meetings.

As of 4:30pm Wednesday, Dela Cruz has yet to receive a call from the governor.

"I still consider myself a good friend of the governor. But it prohibits me from attending important meetings, I can't agree to that. I am concerned about animals on the island," he said.

Demapan, when asked whether the governor is disappointed with Dela Cruz, said "no."

Crisis looms

Dela Cruz said yesterday he wants to talk to the governor regarding his veterinary services.

When he was DLNR secretary, Dela Cruz was also serving as the CNMI state veterinarian, but was receiving a salary only as a department secretary. He was also one of only two "state" U.S. Department of Agriculture meat inspectors.

"It's going to be hard for the CNMI,

that's why I want to talk to the governor if he still wants my service as a veterinarian," said Dela Cruz.

The press secretary said this matter has not been discussed yet.

Dela Cruz, when he was DLNR secretary, was at the animal quarantine facility one day every other week to provide veterinary services.

He said the average number of animal clients he saw was 46 to 47, while the highest number was 63.

Most of the services are for animal vaccination, de-worming, and treatment of certain types of skin diseases like mange.

Dela Cruz said while the CNMI has one other veterinarian, Dr. Ed Tudor, the latter deals mostly with small animals unlike Dela Cruz who also deals with cattle and goats. He said Tudor, as a private veterinarian, cannot sign USDA state certification forms for entry or export of animals.

This means without a state veterinarian, anyone wanting to import a live animal such as pet cats and dogs or roosters won't be able to do so until the CNMI has a "state veterinarian."

Dela Cruz said he used to have an independent contract with the government as a veterinarian for \$63,000 a year.

BUCKINGHAM

From Page 1

Hazlip said OPA's attempted renewals failed to comply with the requirements of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

On Przyuski's contract, Hazlip said the contract document is facially invalid and was not executed or processed in compliance with the mandatory standards of the CNMI Excepted Service Personnel Regulations.

Hazlip said Pai signed on Dec. 2, 2008 a sole source independent contract agreement with CNMI attorney McMahon for part-time legal services to be provided to OPA for a period of one year.

He said the contract provides for payment based on attorney billings at \$125 per hour for legal services, not to exceed \$40,000 in total, for a term commencing Dec. 2, 2008 and terminating Nov. 30, 2009.

Pai allegedly signed on Nov. 12,

2010 a change order no. 2 purporting to extend OPA's sole source contract with McMahon for one year.

Buckingham signed the change order no. 2 on Jan. 7, 2011 and forwarded the procurement documents to the governor's office for final review.

Hazlip said subsequent to Buckingham's approval of the change order for OPA's contract with McMahon, the Office of the Attorney General learned that OPA previously had executed an employment contract in November 2010 to hire Przyuski as part-time legal counsel for OPA.

Hazlip said the Przyuski contract was never submitted to the OAG for review and instead another OPA attorney, Nancy Gottfried, approved the contract on Nov. 15, 2010.

The contract is for a period of employment commencing Nov. 22, 2010 and continuing until Nov. 21, 2011.

Hazlip said OPA did not route the contract for approval by the Procurement director, AG, or governor.

"Since September 2010, Josepy Przyuski has not been present in the CNMI and, since this time, has not been present on the island of Saipan," the lawyer said.

It was Pai who investigated the complaints lodged against Buckingham and the OAG for hosting a campaign gathering for then delegate candidate Joseph N. Camacho of the ruling Covenant Party.

With governor Benigno Fitial's blessing, Buckingham hired a private counsel to represent him in his official and personal capacity in connection with OPA's notice of alleged criminal and ethical violations investigation.

Pai or OPA has neither released the report to the public or commented on any ethics investigation, citing statutory restrictions.

Sources said Przyuski was the one who wrote the investigation report regarding Buckingham's election/campaign issues.

Elbert Quitugua, the grandparent of the Luhk sisters, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the family and an anonymous person have put up a \$10,000 cash for information leading to the whereabouts of his granddaughters.

This now brings the total cash reward in this case to \$33,500. The \$20,500 other cash rewards were earlier offered by the FBI (\$10,000), Pacific Amusement Inc. (\$10,000), the NMI Crime Stoppers Program (\$1,000), IT&E (\$1,000), Sorensen Media Group (\$1,000), and Rabby Syed's Saipan City Taxi Association (\$500).

Quitugua said it is nice to see that people are coming forward, helping them, and offering cash rewards.

"We're still praying and we want to thank from the bottom of our heart as to all the donors. We thank them for their caring, that maybe by pledging it would definitely increase the amount and that would hopefully help people thinking hard to really come forward and give us information," he said.

On the arrival of tracking expert dog from Hawaii, Quitugua said they are very anxious and upbeat that the FBI is bringing it in.

"We hope that the dog will pick up something," he said.

On the FBI's statement that Ruhtik Luhk, father of the girls, did not cause the girls' disappearance, Quitugua said that's the FBI's job as they were there (Pohnpei).

"That's good if it's not him. If the FBI is clearing him from any involvement that's very good to hear. So that we can move on to the next leads that we can concentrate on instead of concentrating on him," he said.

is not a suspect in the disappearance of these girls nor a person of interest. We want to talk to him if he saw anything suspicious," he said.

Simon said the person was seen on May 6 so they are talking about a couple of weeks before the girls disappeared.

Simon said they want to make sure that they leave no stone unturned in this investigation because nothing is more important to the DPS police and the FBI than getting these girls back home safely.

"So we want to make sure we speak to everyone who spent any amount of time in this neighborhood if they saw anything suspicious," he said.

Simon said the person will not be arrested as they just want to have a friendly conversation with him to see if he has seen anything that would be of interest to law enforcement in this matter.

"The important thing here is the actual birthmark. This is one of the many leads we are running down right now. We are not excluding any leads in this investigation," he said.

DPS Commissioner Ramon Mafnas said they have already searched over 400 sites and followed over 100 leads.

"And as we speak the search operations continue," Mafnas said.

Simon said to his knowledge nobody has been placed under the hold departure list in connection with the investigation.

"We have no names of the suspect in the investigation. No one has been in custody, there's no one has been detained. Right now we are still on the 'who've done it' phase of the investigation," he added.

FBI

From Page 1

mately 10:30pm a white four-door car with some body damage on the front passenger side was seen driving in this area.

He said the vehicle with tinted windows, drove up the road near the entrance to the Santa Lourdes shrine and parked in the dark area.

"At the time one of the neighbors who was concerned that something was going on walked up to the car and engaged with the driver and spoke to the driver. And the driver said he was looking for someone and eventually drove off," said Simon, who is the FBI Honolulu media relations coordinator.

As he showed a drawing of the driver to the media, the special agent described him as a Pacific islander and about 30 years old, with short clean cut hair.

"One thing that is very distinctive about the individual who is driving the white car is that he has a very distinctive birthmark on the face," he said.

Simon said the sketch, which was given to them by a witness, is not an official police sketch, but that is only "something to jog the memory of the people."

Simon said anyone who knows this individual or any individual fitting this description is encouraged to contact either the FBI Command Post at (670) 322-0054 or the DPS Incident Command Center at 664-9090.

He said the birthmark is located on the right side of the face, underneath the eye toward the nose.

"I want to emphasize that this person

CIP

From Page 1

Saipan) remain skeptical about the CIP Office's application and administration of CIP funds.

Manglona said the CNMI got only \$9.5 million instead of \$13 million in CIP funding in 2011 "because the CIP program is not competitive or managed as efficiently as other insular areas."

"With all due respect to the CIP Office, we need to put more effort and focus into getting more construction activities going. In the process, we will also improve our chances of getting more CIP funding. We're losing some \$4 million a year, when we could get up to \$13 million a year," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

He said the CIP Office, the Fitial administration, and the Legislature could work more collaboratively to move CIPs faster and more efficiently.

Torres, whose Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs is holding a series of meetings focused on CIPs on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, said senators want to know "what it would take for the CNMI to get \$13 million instead of only \$9.5 million each year in CIP money."

"Some CIP grants date back five to six years ago," he said.

But Torres said senators recognize that the CIP Office has done a tremendous job in moving projects forward since they the administration of CIPs was transferred from the Department of Public Works.

"We want more details from the CIP Office, that's why we're conducting hearings," he added.

Villagomez said the current status of 31 of 33 projects under contract "indicates that little would be gained by increasing administration costs other than reducing actual costs for the actual project."

In her letter to Torres, she said "because of the success in project implementation, current CIP staffing and expenditures seem well suited to administrative needs."

Manglona asked Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to reorganize the CIP Office and reevaluate how the CNMI man-

ages CIPs.

"We cannot afford to continue losing CIP dollars, and if reorganizing the CIP Office to hire and pay a top professional ensures we finish projects expeditiously and receive more funds this year than last, it would be money well spent," Manglona said in a letter to Fitial in March, but the Senate president said he has yet to get a response from the governor three months later.

Besides the CIP Office, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and the Water Task Force also administer CIP funds.

Villagomez said her report to the Senate panel is limited to projects under the authority of the CIP Office.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, in a separate letter to lawmakers, said the CNMI has yet to spend over \$48.6 million of almost \$79.66 million in CIP grant since 2006.

Villagomez said examples of long-idle projects are the Marpi public cemetery, Rota landfill, Rota gymnasium, Rota-Department of Public Safety building repairs, Tinian landfill, Tinian solid waste transfer station, Saipan's Multi-Purpose Center repairs, and Northern Marianas College facility repairs.

She said the root cause of this inaction seems to be the inability of having a staff of personnel focused solely on timely implementation of Section 702 projects.

"As a result of this focused administrative effort, as of today's date, 31 of 33 projects are under contract and have plans for the remaining two within the next 60 days. This effort represents an unprecedented increase in Section 702 project implementation, as it is projected that \$16,327,556 will be expended in 2011 and \$17,744,554 in 2012," she told Torres.

Villagomez also said instead of relying on outside consultants, the administration has focused on building a team of local personnel consisting of five individuals and two engineers, along with assistance from the Office of the Attorney General.

She said the small staff costs the government only \$714,960 in 2011 or only 4.3 percent of total construction costs which traditionally runs at 10 percent or \$1.6 million.

MHS student receives national honor

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas High School student Salvi Diomar C. Villanueva has been accepted to the National Society of High School Scholars for his superior academic achievements.

The 16-year-old is the son of Donald and Malou Villanueva.

He is currently a member of the National Honor Society and president of the Video Production Club of his school. Besides his consistent academic participations, Villanueva is also an active member of the community and sports clubs. He is also the captain of his school's soccer team.

During the regional thespian

competitions on island, Villanueva was named gold medal awardee in film category and who will represent the CNMI in the International Thespian Society festival in Lincoln, Nebraska. He is scheduled to leave for the national contest tomorrow.

Saipan Tribune learned that the student was a consistent honor since his elementary

years. When he was in Hopwood Junior High School, he was named the class first honorable mention and recipient of other special awards and recognitions including outstanding academic excellence award and advanced reader award.

When he was in ninth grade, Villanueva was adjudged his class principal's awardee while

named honor's list awardee in his 10th grade. This year, he recently received principal's award in his class.

Villanueva was also the winner of the Bank of Guam's 2011 Calendar Photography Competition this year.

Since 2009, the 16-year-old was also bestowed numerous recognitions and awards in various video and film production contests.

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Salvi Diomar has demonstrated to achieve this level of academic excellence. He is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our very best hope for the future,"



Villanueva

said the society's founder and chair Claes Nobel.

Membership in the society of scholars entitles qualified students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, and others.

Formed in 2002, NSHSS recognizes academic excellence at the high school level and encourage members to apply their unique talents, vision, and potential for the betterment of themselves and the world.

Butters selected to attend Math & Science Summer Program

Northern Marianas College Upward Bound program participant and Kagman High School sophomore, Shaun Kyle Butters, has been selected to attend a month-long introductory math and science skills program focused on marine science.

The Math and Science Program Level I will take place at Monterey Peninsula College in Monterey, California.

The 2011 summer program will be held from June 24 to July 24, 2011. Participants in the program are immersed in the study of math and science taking courses with other students with similar goals. Some of the courses Butters will be taking include marine biology, mathematics, communication, and college orientation and personal development.

In conjunction with the courses are laboratory and field activities that emphasize skill development in note taking, quantification, observation, and description, graphing, independent and group research, experimental techniques, and oral reporting. Other educationally enriching activities, such as attending workshops, hosting guest speakers and meeting with educational advisors, will also be conducted.

In addition to taking math and



Butters

science courses, participants in the program are given the opportunity to experience living in a college environment with other program participants. For the duration of the program, Butters will be living on the campus dormitories of the University of California at Santa Cruz with other students.

As a student at KHS, Butters is actively involved with his school as a member of the Marine Biology Club, Japanese Cultural Club and Junior Varsity Basketball team. He also serves as the KHS Sophomore Class Secretary. Besides active school participation, Butters is a member of CNMI Teen Talk and the National Forensic League, and even participated in the Attorney General's Cup speech competition. Butters is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Butters of As Teo.

"I feel extremely excited to

be representing the NMC Upward Bound program, and also proud to be going to Monterey to represent Saipan," said Butters. "I will take this opportunity to experience college life and find out what to expect when I really do attend college."

Butters plans on majoring

in secondary education and history in college. Butters has been a participant of the Upward Bound program at NMC, which is a federally funded TRiO program tasked to motivate disadvantaged high school students pursue post secondary education. (PR)

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IN ADVANCE OF OCT. 1 DEADLINE FOR PL 16-51

Full evaluation on staffing, operations of health centers underway

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A comprehensive evaluation of all public health centers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is currently underway to ensure the smooth transition of the Commonwealth Health Center and other health clinics from government entities into one private corporation this October.

Department of Public Health secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez said a transition committee formed by the administration has started the preliminary work that will focus on the health centers' operation and staffing.

The full assessment, the health chief said, also covers analysis of each center's data recordings on illnesses, patients, and services that are being offered.

Public Law 16-51, or the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Act of 2008, mandates to turn the public hospital and the clinics on Rota and Tinian, including the Community Guidance Center, the Children and Women's Clinic, and the inter-island medical referral services, into a healthcare corporation. At present, both Rota and Tinian health centers are operating under their respective municipalities.

Starting on Oct. 1, a commission's account will be established to test the "independence" of the corporation where the central government will provide the seed money. Revenues from all clinics will be deposited in the said account.

Villagomez said the new set-up will make public health more accountable and more self-sustaining. New procurement regulations and policies will also be established for the corporation.

"It is only through full evaluation of the operation of each center that we will know how many physicians, physician assistants, nurses, midlevel providers, and

other staff they really need," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Currently Tinian has only one doctor and two midlevel providers onboard. Villagomez said until analysis are incomplete, additional physicians for the Tinian Health Center cannot be determined yet.

"We're looking now at the number of patients on Tinian and whether it warrants two physicians," said Villagomez.

Compared to the Tinian clinic, Rota Health Center has had two doctors serving the island for years. The health chief can't say if this is justifiable considering the number

of patients on island.

"We're also looking at the overall financial picture here. Records will give us how many people they're treating every day, number of emergency and follow-up cases of the center. The evaluation would allow us to see how many nurses, for example, are really needed there. We call this staff-matching so we can continue to provide the care but not necessarily at a huge price for us," explained Villagomez.

At CHC, there are 27 active physicians as of last month—a figure considered as stable by DPH officials.

Villagomez admitted that the U.S. immigration policy hinders the department's efforts in bringing more doctors and other medical specialists on island.

Villagomez, the chair of the transition team tasked to oversee the transformation of the hospital into a public corporation, assured that both Tinian and Rota health centers will be consulted in the group's next meetings.

He said that "members" of the transition group are all department chairs and nobody outside the community has been identified in the team.

Japan theater, dance groups visit Saipan

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fifteen members of the Japanese amateur theater group Aoi Keiki Gekida visited Saipan from June 9 to 12.

Aoi Keiki Gekida, which was established 13 years ago in Shizuoka City, has about 30 members whose age are 60 years or older.

Hiroko Tajima, assistant manager for Pacific Development Inc., said that many Japanese soldiers from Shizuoka City fought and died on Saipan during the war.

Tajima said that a Japanese



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Dream Hula Team smile for the camera as they wait for their turn to perform at the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival grounds.

temple, Nanmeido, was built near the Sugar King Park to pray for the fallen soldiers. Rev. Shinryu Akita, priest of



Members of the Aoi Keiki Gekida pose for a photo with the audience after their performance at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center last June 10.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mayor Donald G. Flores and Gary Sword of KKMP pose for a photo with a member of the Aoi Keiki Gekida last Friday.

the Nanmeido Temple, is from Shizuoka City.

"With this, the group decided to come to Saipan to pay respect to those who perished during the war," said Tajima.

Tajima also said that the group performed a classical comical Japanese drama "Mori no Ishimatsu" at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center

on June 10.

"Although the drama was in Japanese, locals enjoyed their performance, including Mayor of Saipan, Mr. Donald Flores," she said.

Tajima added that the group visited during their stay the northern part of the island for sightseeing, and visited the KKMP radio station and the Aging Center.

Dream Hula Team

A 36-member dance group from Fussa City also visited the island recently.

The Dream Hula Team was on Saipan from June 9 to 11 to participate in the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival.

The group was led by Misao Kasono, who has been teaching the hula dance to different groups for 19 years.

Tajima disclosed that the group considered canceling their trip because of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

"We're very glad to participate in the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival," said Kasono.

Arts Council executive director Angel S. Hocog presented certificates of appreciation to the Dream Hula Team members and a plaque for the Fussa City Mayor Ikuro Kato.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-040 DEBT COLLECTION LEGAL SERVICES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from from debt collection attorneys to assist in the collection of delinquent utility billings for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The CUC intends to place selected accounts with one or more attorney. Submitted proposals must indicate how the CUC will be kept informed of the progress of each account placed with the attorney, as well as provide a summary and detail report of all accounts placed. In addition, proposals must provide for the total listing of the gross amount of all collections with a separate billing for attorney services rendered.

The RFP Package and the Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 16, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-040, Debt Collection Legal Services" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than July 08, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 20, 2011 to Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net; Mr. Manuel Sablan Purchasing Officer msablan@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

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FLAME TREE ARTS FESTIVAL

Five bag top prizes in raffle draw

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Five individuals went home with exciting prizes at the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival Raffle Draw as the four-day festival culminated last Sunday night.

Festival coordinator Parker Y. Yobei said the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture and the Flame Tree Arts Festival Committee received hundreds of entries for the raffle draw.

Chrystal Myra Somol Borromeo won the grand prize of two round trip tickets to anywhere in the U.S. mainland. The prize was donated by Delta Air Lines.

Maria S. Camacho earned the one year unlimited local talk service from IT&E which is valued at \$800.

Other winners who received IT&E donated items include Angel Demapan, who won the first prize of one Blackberry Bold valued at \$565; Andrea S. Camacho, who won the second prize of one air card with six months free services valued at

\$425; and Marycris Waing, who won a Samsung i100 Gem Android Phone valued at \$225.

All winners received their prizes from committee members at the festival site on June 12.

"We congratulate all the winners and thank everybody who bought the tickets and took time out to enjoy the festivities. We also want to thank our major sponsors: Delta Air Lines, IT&E, DFS Galleria, Bank of Guam, Coca-Cola, and the National Park Services for making this year's event a successful one," said Yobei.

Arts Council executive director Angel S. Hocog, for his part, expressed his appreciation to all local artists who have demonstrated their talents and skills to the community through the Flame Tree Arts Festival.

"Our gratitude also extends to the off-island performers from Tinian, Japan, and New Zealand who have made our 30th anniversary very memorable. We hope to see everyone again in next year's festivities," he added.

The largest cultural event in the Commonwealth, the Flame Tree Arts Festival was held on June 9-12 at the American Memorial Park, west of the Bell Tower in Garapan. This year's theme was "30 years of Uniting Cultures and Traditions."

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos is flanked by Arts Council executive director Angel S. Hocog, board members Ana S. Teregeyo, Frank Norita, festival coordinator Parker Y. Yobei, and members of the New Zealand delegation after the opening ceremony of the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival at the American Memorial Park on June 11.



Cancer association looking for volunteers

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Volunteers are needed for the new breast and cervical health outreach project of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Program manager Tina Sablan said they need specific volunteers for a photo shoot within the week.

"The photos will be used in the materials we develop for our breast and cervical health outreach campaign," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Sablan said are looking for a grandmother/mother/daughter trio age 50 or older, in mid-thirties, and teenagers; two to three tweens; two mother/daughter pairs; and two women age 50 or older.

These female volunteers, Sablan said, are do not necessarily have to be cancer survivors.

Sablan noted, however, that they would also need breast and cervical cancer survivors for

testimonials to be used in the outreach materials.

The program manager said they also need motivated and inspiring outreach volunteers who can commit to a six-week training program with CCA on Wednesday evening and Saturday mornings for two hours per day and a few hours every month thereafter for a year of volunteer service.

According to Sablan, the outreach volunteers will play an important role in developing a breast and cervical health outreach plan aimed at educating and empowering women of all ages to reduce their cancer risk.

"We are hoping for a diverse and inspiring group of at least 10 outreach volunteers, and if we have more than 20, that would be even better," added Sablan.

To volunteer or for more information, contact CCA at 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org.

DPS sets seatbelt checkpoints today

The Department of Public Safety's Police Division and Traffic Section will be conducting Occupant Protection Child Restraint (OPCR) Checkpoints on the date and times listed below:

- Thursday, June 16, 2011, 3pm, Beach Road, Garapan, near Bank Pacific.
- Thursday (same day), June 16, 2011, 5pm, Beach Road, Susupe, near Minatchom Atdao Pavilion.

The first checkpoint will be on Beach Road Garapan by Bank Pacific. This operation will commence at approximately 3pm, and will terminate at approximately 4:15pm.

The second checkpoint will be on Beach Road Susupe by

Minachom Atdao Pavilion. This operation will commence at approximately 5pm, and will terminate at approximately at 6:1pm.

Each checkpoint conducted will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) at each location. These activities are part of the Department of Public Safety's efforts to deter, detect, and ensure that all vehicle occupants are wearing seat belts, car seats, booster seats, and or proper passenger safety belts and devices.

In addition, traffic officers will be conducting Highway Criminal Interdictions, Saturation Patrol, Aggressive Driver Interdictions, and Laser Technology (Speed Detection) activities. (DPS)

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Next dog registration site is Oleai

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After the Carolinian Utt in Garapan, staff of the Dog Control Program of the Saipan Mayor's Office is schedule to conduct dog tagging and registration in its next location at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium starting next week.

Program director Ray B. Lizama said yesterday that their team will be at the gym located in Oleai, the next licensing village site, from June 20 to 30.

"We would like to remind all dog owners to comply with the

Dog Control Program. It's the law," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Lizama, dog tags will determine the dog's ownership. "When we do village visits and see dogs that don't have tags, they will be considered stray dogs."

As of yesterday afternoon, Lizama said that some 484 dog owners from different precincts have already registered their dogs.

When they started the dog tagging on June 6, Lizama said they required dog owners to bring their dogs along for the staff to take photographs of the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mayor Donald G. Flores, left, shakes hands with Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Oliver Gonzales, center, after Gonzales' father-in-law, Kiyoaki Suzuki, right, became the first dog owner to register his dogs at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan last June 6. The next village site for dog registration will be at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in Oleai from June 20 to 30.

ANNUAL LICENSE FEES

	Unaltered Dogs	Altered (Neutered) Dogs	Senior Citizen (55 and above) Dog Owners
1 Year License	\$10	\$6	\$5
2 Year License	\$18	\$10	\$8
3 Year License	\$26	\$14	\$10
4 Year License	\$34	\$18	\$12
5 Year License	\$42	\$24	\$15

dog to be registered.

"The photos are for record purposes. We will put them in our file so that when a dog owner loses a dog, we can just check the tag number and what the dog looks like. That way, we can easily find the missing dog," he explained.

At present, Lizama said they tell dog owners that they themselves can take a photo of their dog and save it in a flash drive.

"They can just bring the flash drive when they go to the dog registration site and we'll just upload it in our computer. Our waiting time now when tagging dogs is less than five minutes," he said.

Lizama said this method helps pet owners who have two or more dogs that need to be registered.

"Some dog owners said they

can't fit their dogs in the car. Some have raised safety concerns but our staff is prepared because we have our cages and dog muzzles," he said.

Lizama reminded all pet owners who want to register their dogs to proceed to any of the three government cashier offices first—Treasury Office in Capital Hill, Tax and Revenue Office in Dandan, or the Commonwealth Superior Court—before they go to the registration sites.

"We also want to remind dog owners who are senior citizens of 60 years or older that for a one-year license, they will pay \$5 for altered dogs and \$10 for non-altered dogs," he added.

For more information, call Dog Control Program at 234-6208, (671) 888-3241 or email dogcontrolprogram.mos2011@yahoo.com.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 16, 1999

Finance: No more funds for pet projects

Finance Sec. Lucy DLG. Nielsen has cautioned lawmakers against re-appropriating anticipated balance from earlier funding allocated by the Legislature, dashing hopes by some members to push pet projects ahead of the November midterm polls. Nielsen said that although the remaining funds appear on records, these money are no longer available for reprogramming into capital improvement projects being pitched by legislators for their respective voting precincts. In a letter to House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Karl T. Reyes, the top finance official said they are still drafting a report on fund balances as the panel has earlier requested to shed light on where the money were spent.

Lack of funds should not compromise health care

Despite limited resources, hospitals in various islands in the Pacific can still provide adequate health care as long as priorities are clearly defined and government leaders make a commitment to ensure that there's a substantial budget on public health, said Kathleen L. Fritsch, a nurse educator and consultant in the World Health Organization. For the past years the 10 Pacific Islands have been experiencing similar problems such as limited quantity of supplies, lack of adequate resources and management leadership. "You have to clearly define what you need and submit a coherent proposal to management. They have to know that without this, we won't run a safe health care system," Fritsch told delegates of the American Pacific Nursing Leaders Council Conference.

June 16, 2000

NMC pushes for computer courses for locals

Striving to equip local talents with expertise in computer programming and network technology, the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents yesterday carried a motion to implement a technology-oriented program for the benefit of current and potential career professionals. Disappointed with the lack of computer literate among locals, BOR member Manny Sablan said NMC should seriously look into developing more computer-related courses at the college. Member Vince Seman echoed Mr. Sablan's views, citing it is about time that the CNMI aim to be at par with other nations in acquiring globally competitive jobs particularly in the field of computers.

Unpaid retro pay reaches \$9.4-M

The government has owed over \$9.4 million in unpaid pay raise to nearly 2,000 employees, according to the Office of Management and Budget. In a report to Sen. Edward U. Maratita who has asked for the information in preparation for a plan to pay these overdue wages, OMB chief Edward S. Tenorio said the administration will need more time to compile and update on the financial obligation. The Rota senator, who chairs the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, is looking at appropriating some funds from FY 2001 budget for its settlement, saying that the mandatory pay increase for government employees has been neglected long enough. About 1,915 government employees on Saipan, Rota and Tinian have been waiting for their money since 1991 when Public Law 7-31 was enacted.

June 16, 2003

'CUC didn't evaluate SK's proposal'

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. awarded its two-year fuel supply contract to Mobil Marianas without evaluating the proposal of its lone competitor, Pacific Petroleum Corp. or the regional representative of the Korean-based SK Shipping. In an April 24 letter of CUC executive director Lorraine A. Babauta to PPC chief operating officer Richard Reddy, she said the CUC found that SK Shipping proposal was "non-responsive" to CUC's Request for Proposal and was therefore "not susceptible to evaluation." Babauta said that SK did not provide for delivery to Tinian and Rota and the price for such a service, nor did it accept CUC's payment terms. However, in a protest letter by SK, a copy of which was obtained by Saipan Tribune, it insisted that its proposal was qualified for evaluation and accused the CUC of "unfair business practices."

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB11-DPH-098**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 06, 2011 • TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ROUTER, ONE (1) WALL MOUNT SERVER ENCLOSURE CABINET, AND ONE (1) UNMANAGED SWITCH FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB11-DPH-104 (A-E)**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 12, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) LAPTOP COMPUTERS, SIXTEEN (16) DESKTOP COMPUTERS, SIX (6) DOT MATRIX PRINTERS, SIX (6) PRINT SERVERS, AND TWO (2) NETWORK PRINTER MACHINE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

RETIREMENT FUND

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its **Special meeting Friday, June 17, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.** at the **NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.**

AGENDA

- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Money Managers Selection – RFP No. 11-001 & RFP No. 11-002
 - B. Asset Allocation Implementation
- IV. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Performance Evaluation of Current Money Managers
 - B. Third Committee Member Election
 - C. Semi Annual Investment Consultant Meeting Date
 - D. PSS Lease
 - E. Employment Exemption - A.I. Palacios
- V. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VI. **MISCELLANEOUS**
 - A. Other Related Matters
 - B. Next Meeting
 - C. Adjournment

/s/ **SIXTO K. IGISOMAR**
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PUBLIC NOTICE
 6/16/11

Special Meeting of the Board of Regents

Board of Regents Conference room, NMC - Saipan Campus
Friday, June 17, 2011
2:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. **REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
 - a. March 16, 2011 – Special Meeting
 - b. April 01, 2011 – Special Meeting
 - c. May 09, 2011 – Special Meeting
 - d. May 20, 2011 – Special Meeting
 - e. June 06, 2011 – Special Meeting
- IV. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Management Team to discuss transitional matters
- V. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Board Operations: Meeting (Board Policy No. 1015)
 - b. Personnel Matters
- VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged)
- VII. **REGENTS' INPUT ON MATTERS OF CONCERN**
- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

/s/ **Juan T. Lizama**
Chairperson
Board of Regents

June 16, 2011

Pellegrino: Give NMTI students a try

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas Trade Institute founder Anthony Pellegrino appealed Tuesday to the business sector and the community to give the institution's students a "chance" to prove themselves.

He disclosed that after establishing the trade institute three years ago, several individuals from all walks of life have been helped by the school in enhancing their skills and finding employment for their livelihood.

"They're fantastic workers given the right motivation. So please when you meet your friends, relatives, retirees tell them to check us out," appealed Pellegrino during the weekly Saipan Rotary Club meeting at Hyatt Regency

Saipan, where he served as guest speaker.

Pellegrino said that the institute is instilling in their students three important elements that will guide them to the rightful employment that they desire: head, heart, and hands.

Head represents the working attitude, heart for work ethic, and hands for individual skills.

For Pellegrino, some nations did not succeed because its people—the country's greatest assets—don't have the right attitude such as the Commonwealth.

"The attitude to work: That's what this island needs. Our institute is here to help educate men and women who have the desire and willingness to learn. Our door is open and we will totally embrace them," he said.

Pellegrino shared with Ro-

tarians the institution's humble beginnings at a house in Dandan until it moved to a warehouse facility in Lower Base.

Pellegrino also shared several success stories of NMTI students. Among them were the new hires of Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

He urged government agencies and businesses to either hire or provide training to see their capabilities and talents.

At present, he claims NMTI has about 145 students, majority of whom are poor and have no means to pay for tuition but eager to learn in whatever way.

He revealed that many of its enrollees were high school dropouts, incarcerated in the past, and depend on food stamp assistance and help from Workforce Investment Agency.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Northern Marianas Trade Institute founder Anthony Pellegrino, center, speaks during Tuesday's Saipan Rotary Club meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan. Looking on are Rotary president Glen Perez, left, and Rotarian Nel Matanguihan.

Although he admitted that funding is among the institution's challenges, Pellegrino did not elaborate further on the issue. However, he recog-

nized the efforts of Congressman Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan in helping NMTI secure a \$200,000 federal grant.

Pellegrino will also fly to

Washington, D.C. next month to meet the assistant secretary of U.S. Labor Department to see if a job corps could also be extended to the Commonwealth.

Caribbean, Pacific students converge at UOG for agriculture internship

College students from the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Marshall Islands, CNMI, Guam, Palau, and the FSM are on the University of Guam campus through June 23 participating in a three and a half week summer internship under the CariPac consortium, which is a program through which all the land grant institutions in the Caribbean and the Pacific collaborate and share information about agricultural innovation, research and applications.

"Students will participate in a variety of field observations and hands-on laboratories where they can observe and learn about the agricultural businesses and activities that are found on Guam," said Dr. Prem Singh, UOG faculty member and CariPac Internship Program Coordinator.

Students will visit a variety of farms including the Department of Agriculture organic farm; the Triton Farm's aquaponics facility; the Watson vegetable/fruit farm which uses a drip irrigation and fertigation system on a farm scale, and utilizes many innovations in its operation; the Ernie Wusting Corn Farm which utilizes a no-till corn production method and which has reduced soil erosion and increased soil depth; Quan's Coconut Farm which supplies fresh coconut drinks to the tourism industry; and the Hydroponic Living Lettuce farm and local plant nurseries to learn about the business and production aspects of modern agribusinesses.

They will also visit the eco-tourism facility Hamamoto Fruit World to observe how to combine tourism, ecology, vegetable and fruit production, and post harvesting and processing to develop a business enterprise.

In the UOG labs they will learn about plant propagation and grafting and agricultural engineering technologies for Sustainable Tropical Agriculture. The students will learn how to setup



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

College students from around the Pacific and the Caribbean are participating in a three and a half week internship at UOG learning about the island's agriculture innovations, research and applications. Pictured front row from left Tom T. Pangelinan, CNMI; Jonathan Davis, Guam; second row from left: Dr. Lee Yudin, Dean of the College of Natural and Applied Sciences; Dawn Kingzio, Palau; Charity Clanry, Marshall Islands; Wendelyn Mendez Maldonado, Puerto Rico; third row from left: Dominapillar Augustine, Palau; Elvira Gisog, FMS; Ryan A. Tafane, American Samoa; fourth row from left: Dr. Prem Singh, UOG professor and CariPac Internship Program Coordinator; Gabriel Rantojas Flores, Puerto Rico; fifth row from left: Lucas A. LaPlace, U.S. Virgin Islands; Juan T. Iguel, CNMI; and Samuel Ioka Meleisea, American Samoa. Not pictured is Patrick Zerzan, student mentor, Guam.

an automated micro-irrigation system, irrigation controllers, and learn about water harvesting canopies among other activities. They will also learn about biotechnology in agriculture and observe juvenile shrimp production facilities at UOG's aquaculture facility and how Guam is fighting the invasion of Rhino beetle that threatens the existence of coconut trees on Guam.

"This is an all encompassing

three and a half weeks where these students get the opportunity to absorb information that they can take back to their home islands to enhance their own agricultural economies," said Lee Yudin, Dean of the College of Natural and Applied Sciences and Principal Investigator for the consortium grant.

For more information contact Dr. Prem Singh at psinghedu@gmail.com. (UOG)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 11-01 United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands

DOCKET CLERK

Location: GARAPAN, SAIPAN, MP PERMANENT FULL-TIME
Grade CL-24 \$32,936 per annum, plus 17.23% COLA
(With promotion potential to CL-26, \$40,058 to \$65,142 plus COLA)

OPEN: June 15, 2011 CLOSING DATE: June 22, 2011

The Court reserves the right to withdraw or extend the closing date for this position.

Selected applicant must be available to begin employment on July 1, 2011.

Position Overview:

This position is located in the Clerk's Office of the U.S. District Court, in Saipan. The incumbent receives and reviews documents for conformity with federal and local rules, including electronic case filing from Internet users, and assists with case management. The incumbent also acts as cashier, assists with courtroom operations, and assists with shelving of law library materials. Information is at: <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov>

Minimum Qualifications:

Applicants must be a high school graduate or equivalent and must have two years general experience and one year specialized experience, which has provided a good understanding of office clerical practices and knowledge of legal procedure and or legal pleading. Applicants must also have excellent office computing skills.

Educational Substitutes:

Education above high school level in accredited institutions may be substituted for the general experience on the basis of one academic year equals nine months of general experience.

Desirable Qualifications:

An Associate (AA or AS) college degree is desirable. Applicants should possess the ability to exercise mature judgment and the ability to communicate effectively in writing and orally. Strong legal office and/or administrative work experience is desirable.

Other Requirements:

Applicants are required to be U.S. citizens or U.S. Permanent Residents who are actively seeking U.S. citizenship. The selected candidate will be subject to a background check as a condition of employment. All appointments subject to mandatory electronic funds transfer (Direct Deposit) for payment of net pay. Applicants selected for interviews must travel or relocate at their own expense. The incumbent is subject to a six (6) month probationary period.

Application Procedure:

Each applicant is required to submit a cover letter; plus an AO-78 application form, and a five-year salary history. Optional resume may be included with AO-78 application. AO-78 forms are on the Internet at: <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov>, or may be picked up at the U.S. District Court. Submit applications by hand delivery, or by fax or email with originals mailed and postmarked by closing date, to:

**Clerk of Court
United States District Court
for the Northern Mariana Islands
2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, Garapan
P.O. Box 500687, Saipan MP 96950**

(Fax 670-236-2910 galo_perez@nmid.uscourts.gov)
The U.S. District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Gates to NATO: Carry your weight or else

Just 11 weeks ago, the 28 nations that make up NATO intervened to prevent maniacal dictator Moammar Gadhafi of Libya from exterminating the political opposition and innocent bystanders in an indiscriminate reign of terror.

Intervention was the right call: NATO members shared national and humanitarian interests in stopping a looming slaughter, removing a madman from power and preserving access to oil. The intervention had the unprecedented blessings of the Arab League, which shared similar concerns about Gadhafi.

But last week, Robert Gates, in his final days as defense secretary, again flashed his trademark independence, warning bluntly that the United States is nearing its financial limits in serving as police force for the entire globe. Reminiscent of the hard truths President Dwight Eisenhower tackled in his 1961 speech concerning the growing military industrial complex, Gates challenged the military status quo of NATO. The outgoing defense secretary called on the organization to take greater military and financial responsibility as a regional peacekeeper or become an irrelevant relic of history.

It is premature for the United States to give up on NATO, which still has some utility as a peacekeeper, despite its shortcomings. But Europe must do more for its own regional interests and security, and expect less from the United States.

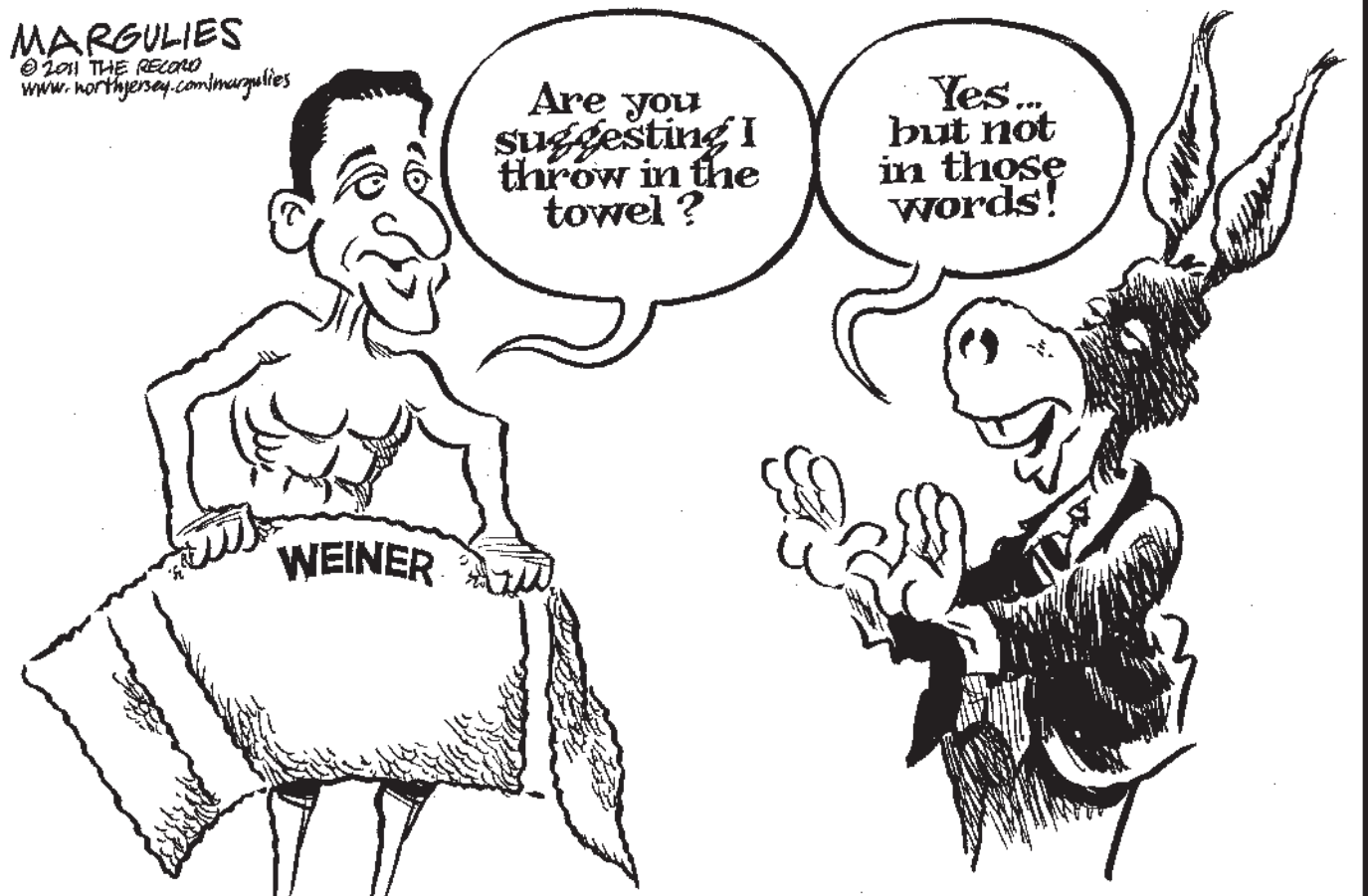
The Soviet Union is long gone, yet the United States foots NATO's financial and military-readiness burdens similarly to when Soviet missiles were pointed at our nation and Soviet troops posed a threat to freedom across Europe. Washington financed about half of NATO military spending during the Cold War; it now carries about 75 percent of the burden, in part because other members have grown accustomed to the U.S. funding and slashed their defense budgets.

Right now, the United States, Great Britain, France, Greece and Albania are the only NATO members to exceed the promise to allocate 2 percent of GDP spending on defense. Fewer than half of the NATO nations are engaged in the Libyan conflict, and less than one third are conducting air strikes. Some allies are beginning to run short of munitions, requiring the U.S. to make up the difference.

The United States must make it clear that our nation cannot and will not bear our traditional portion of NATO's military and financial obligations if Europe isn't willing to do more for its own collective security when the intervention in Libya ends.

NATO is an organization in search of a mission, surviving on U.S. financial largesse and Cold War legacies. Times change, and so must NATO's expectations of a free ride.

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MARGULIES
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A former ambassador says the UN vote would only diminish the world body

An aversion to reality can be a powerfully destructive force. Its most visible manifestation in international affairs lies in trying to create political "facts on the ground" through the United Nations. Accordingly, it is no surprise that the Middle East, one of our most intractable problems, provokes so much U.N. activity, even though the real-world consequences are so limited.

The next episode of reality avoidance is the near certainty that, this fall, the General Assembly will vote to recognize a Palestinian state, possibly also declaring that state's borders with Israel to be the 1967 lines (actually, just the Green Line marking the 1949 cease-fire positions). Absent dramatic action by Washington, perhaps 150 or more of the U.N.'s 192 members, including many nominal U.S. allies, will vote in favor.

Will such a resolution actually make any difference? Is it political theater, or something to take seriously? While a General Assembly convulsion would be largely symbolic, symbols can have consequences if you accept their underlying mythology. How will Israel respond? How should the United States respond?

First, neither the Security Council nor the General Assembly has the legal authority to declare statehood. The U.N.'s website says candidly that the world body "does not possess any authority to recognize either a state or a government." Attempting to ram such a declaration through is not merely improper but destructive of the U.N. itself.

Some, however, argue that there is precedent, citing General Assembly Resolution 181 of 1947, which endorsed a plan to partition the former British League of Nations mandate into Jewish and Arab states, and a "special international regime" for Jerusalem. They should read what the resolution actually says. Like all assembly resolutions, it is not legally binding. It simply "recommends" the partition plan in question, and "requests that the Security Council take the necessary measures" to implement it. The council never adopted the plan. Although the Jewish leadership accepted it, the Arabs did not, and a multi-front Arab assault followed. End of precedent.

While the foregoing international law arguments are complex and probably have eternal life, they will settle nothing today. Perhaps the most reality-averse idea of all is believing the League of Nations' or the U.N.'s actions more than 50 years ago reveal a solution for today. Resolving the Arab-Israeli dispute is ultimately a matter of power and political resolve now, not ambiguous precedents and musty resolutions. If dust-gathering texts from the past could determine the outcome now, what logic requires us to go back merely a few decades? Why not go back millenniums

By JOHN R. BOLTON

Los Angeles Times

John R. Bolton is a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



for even more compelling authority?

Second, whatever serious political work is done at the U.N. is done by the Security Council, where the veto of the five permanent members — the United States, France, China, Britain and Russia — gives them predominance. For decades, this has aggravated Third World nations, the largest of which alternate between advocating the abolition of the veto or themselves becoming permanent members. If the U.N. is ever to play a constructive role in the Arab-Israeli dispute, it will be through the Security Council, not the General Assembly.

The council and the assembly jointly decide on the admission of new members to the U.N. Because the U.N. Charter provides that only "states" can be members, a decision to admit "Palestine" would obviously mean that those supporting membership considered "Palestine" to meet the charter's statehood requirement. Last year, many believed the Obama administration might not veto a Palestinian membership application, and the original Palestinian strategy was indeed to convene the council to seek U.N. admission, or at least declare a Palestinian state. The outcry from President Obama's political opponents, and even from otherwise supportive Democrats, punctured that balloon, thereby prompting statehood advocates' switch to the General Assembly's almost uniformly anti-Israel, anti-U.S. majority. This is the true indicator of reality aversion.

Finally, if the president chooses to stand by and let a resolution happen, rather than taking dramatic diplomatic action such as threatening to cut off U.S. contributions to the U.N., the proper U.S. response is to ignore whatever passes. When the General Assembly adopted the infamous "Zionism is racism" resolution in 1975, Ambassador Daniel Patrick Moynihan responded: "The United States rises to declare that it does not acknowledge, that it will not abide by and that it will never acquiesce in this infamous act." That's a good place to start here as well. We should simply disregard the outcome, and tell the world so at every opportunity. Israel and whoever

See AMBASSADOR on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Networking for results

It's obvious that networking can help you with your career and business. Networking offers two or more parties the opportunity to connect for mutual benefit. There will be a couple of exciting networks that you can be a part of at the BizGrowth Challenge Launch Symposium next week. The first is the Outsourcing Network on Wednesday, June 22, and then the Barter Network on Thursday, June 23.

Outsourcing Network

Do you have a skill, knowledge, education, or talent that you are willing to share for payment on an as-needed basis? Are you unemployed or not working enough hours to provide for your needs? The Outsourcing Network is a new concept that is based on hiring individuals who obtain a business license and then contract their work on a project basis, which allows businesses to get the help they need without having to hire additional full- or part-time employees. It also allows those who can get a business license to work for residential and business people on a contract basis.

The individuals are paid an agreed upon amount per hour or for a project, and they take care of their own taxes and other fees. The public is invited to attend the free Wednesday Symposium to start the process to get their business license and also let others who have a business license attend and provide their contact information that will be available for reference. Business owners can then make the contact and negotiate the arrangements with the individuals who have a business license.

The intent of the Outsourcing Network is to reduce the payroll expense of business owners who cannot hire more people on a part- or full-time basis, but may need additional assistance at peak periods. It will also allow many individuals who are under- or un-employed to earn additional income, and possibly get hired if a business is

impressed with their work behavior and skills.

Barter Network

Bartering allows businesses to save their valuable cash by bartering their assets with other businesses willing to trade their goods and services. In these tough times, when fuel and utility costs are skyrocketing and the dollar is shrinking, getting what you need without spending cash could make the difference between survival and growth.

You'll learn about the essentials of barter and trade, how to set up an agreement that is fair to all parties, and how to establish a market and going prices. Each of the businesses involved with the CHALLENGE will have the opportunity to get involved and list those items they have to trade, and what they would be willing to trade for. You'll also learn about the tax implications of trade and how to report it accurately.

Here are seven reasons you should consider bartering to benefit your business:

1. Create a new customer base by introducing you to new customers who are willing to leave their established business or vendor to work with you.
2. Increase your organization's profitability by lowering overhead expenses and saving your cash.
3. Moving excess or slow moving inventory. When new models are brought in, you can trade your old inventory for desired goods and services.
4. Keep cash readily available in the bank for payroll, inventory, emergencies, or other times of need.
5. Build staff morale and productivity by using traded items for incentives and/or bonuses for your employees.
6. Improve marketing and advertising efforts. If you have items that are needed by media groups, they will often trade for air time or

By RIK VILLEGAS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik is the creator of the BizGrowth Challenge that assists businesses to achieve sustainable growth. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>. To participate or learn more about the BizGrowth Challenge go to www.SaipanBestLiving.com.



ads in their magazine or newspaper.

7. Enhance your personal life by trading for items that you can use at home that will improve your quality of life.

At the Thursday session, you will also learn about the Outsourcing Network and individuals will have the opportunity to enroll in the program.

To learn more about these exciting networks, be sure to attend the Wednesday Symposium if you are a farmer (CREES will share their expertise), someone who would like to start a business, has started a new business and wants support, or if you just want to join the Outsourcing Network. This session is free to the public and lasts from 8am to noon.

The Thursday Symposium is an all-day event intended for business owners, managers, and staff. There is a cost of \$30 to attend the full-day session, or for \$97 (which includes two tickets to the Thursday event) you and your business can participate in the entire 12-week Challenge, which includes many benefits. You can go online to www.SaipanBestLiving.com to learn more about the benefits worth over \$1,800, or register for the event and save \$20.

Letters to the Editor

Ready to fight but not finding battlefield

At the hearing regarding power poles in Marpi, the opposition came prepared. They made articulate, well-reasoned, thoughtful statements and were armed with statistics and figures.

They were ready for a fight but unfortunately couldn't find the battlefield. The opposition insisted the issue was using \$2 million to build unsightly, above-ground power poles to supply power to the cemetery. Although the first speaker said she was opposed to the poles, she was the only one in that camp to correctly state the issue, and then unknowingly made the case for their instillation.

This had nothing to do with power going to a cemetery but the opponents of the poles just don't seem to get it. The veterans cemetery next to it will not hook up and does not need it. The cemetery on Savanna Road had no power. There are not typically power poles or lights in any cemetery.

The opponents had statistics on tourism and eco-tourism, statements from experts within the tourist industry on the negative impact of this project, legal information on how to get more federal money for the alternative energy or underground cables, statements from local groups who enjoy the use of Marpi as it is the suggestions on getting power from alternative sources.

But opponents of the project failed to address the real issue; only the supporters of the project did that. The different groups were talking about two different things. Although the stated project will need millions of dollars to light up a cemetery, the supporters never said a word about the cemetery and its need to be visited not only during day when there is light but also in the middle of the night (light

pollution and the soon-to-be inability of locals and tourists alike to go to Banzai and enjoy the stars and moon on a clear night was not discussed.) The real reason for the project is to get power is to get to a few family farms. That's it. (Of course what not even the supporters talked about was that this sets up further development.) They went on to make the point, and make it clearly, they are registered voters and to deny them their power poles is having outsiders tell them they can't have CUC power.

The Commonwealth's only industry, tourism, and the general welfare of the thousands of residents here, indigenous and not, is of no concern. The big picture so to speak is, well, there is no big picture. No forest, just trees. It seems only the opposition was unaware that the notion of power to a small cemetery that has a generator and is doing fine and could be further supplied by federally funded windmills and solar panels, is all just a rouse. They actually seemed to be naïve enough not to know this is a sham, bogus, false, feigned, fictitious, fraudulent, make believe, phony, pretend, simulated, and untrue. Those who support the project are fully aware of this and seem content to have again duped others. The only point the opponents of this project actually made, if any, was that when the Department of Interior finds out it was misinformed as to how money was used try not to be shocked, as some people always seem to be, that there are consequences.

Lehi Onaga

Chalan Kanoa

AMBASSADOR

From Page 10

else stands tall and votes against the resolution in that very lonely General Assembly room should do the same.

The reality is that the controlling U.N. approach to this dispute is grounded in the decisions made after the 1967 and 1973 Arab-Israeli wars, namely Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These "land for peace" resolutions make no mention of "the 1967 borders" or any other specific line, and for very compelling reasons. Those who drafted these texts understood

full well that the 1967 lines could never meet Israel's legitimate quest, in 242's words, "to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force." It has been America's consistent policy to support those Israeli aspirations, and should remain so today.

Taking assembly recommendations to heart can only cause problems. True, a massive majority supporting Palestinian statehood will constitute yet another assault on Israel's legitimacy and its security needs. And while that vote is likely to be frustrating and bitter, it is best to treat it like the grass we tread beneath our feet.

In fact, a Palestinian statehood resolution will almost certainly wound the United Nations, perhaps gravely, just as for many Amer-

Tourism in the CNMI

Tourism here in the CNMI, as we all know, is really suffering right now. With the disaster that happened in Japan and with the issue regarding the Marpi power poles, we are looking down a very dark road. As a young girl, I never fully understood how important tourism is to our economy, but since taking a tourism class in school, I've learned enough to understand how much the CNMI is suffering. Japanese tourists are the highest visitors to come visit the CNMI, second is Korea followed by China, and then Russia. Since airlines have pulled out, we have less tourists coming in. If only there was a way to keep available air seats open, we won't have this problem.

No matter how many visitors we have lost, it doesn't mean we give up on keeping our island looking beautiful. Our historical sites look historical. We have to put more effort in preserving memorials, historical sites, and beach sites. This is what tourists mostly look at when they want a vacation. They look at what the location can offer. Our island can offer a lot with the modern age, but not every destination can provide a tropical climate that always stays in the same temperature range. If we can keep our island clean and continue our great island hospitality, we can insure that tourists will come back.

Lira Rachelle P. Lizama

Chalan Kanoa






icans "Zionism is racism" delegitimized not Israel but the U.N. itself. Perhaps that risk will awaken our excessively multilateralist administration to the dangers of acquiescing in the Palestinian proposal. Does Obama believe that further discrediting the U.N. is really in our interest?

If, however, he continues to be the most anti-Israel president since 1948, then others will have to act. Congress could adopt legislation cutting off American contributions to the U.N. if the Palestinian resolution is adopted, which might persuade statehood advocates to back down. In any event, there will be fireworks this autumn over Turtle Bay, but no real harm as long as we remember that, in the end, it's just entertainment.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲89 ▼80
Palau	Rain	▲85 ▼78
Yap	Rain	▲84 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲88 ▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼78

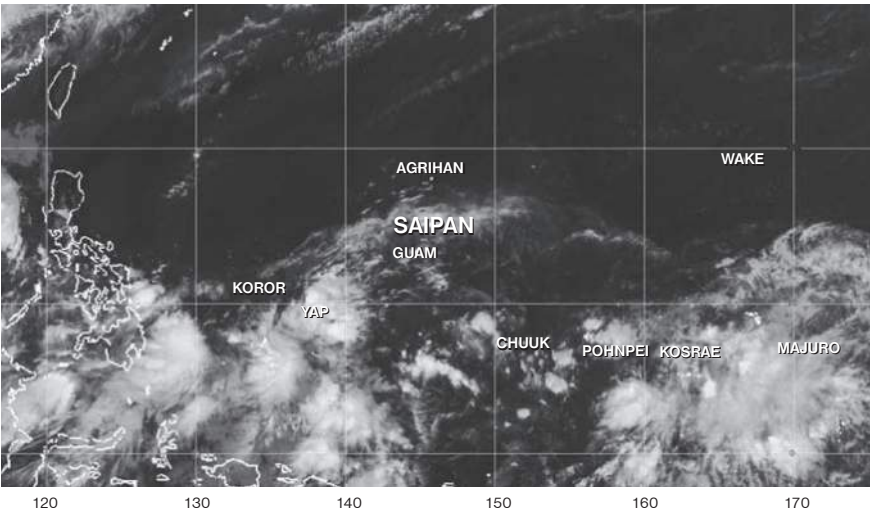
Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲60 ▼54
Beijing	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼69
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼83
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼76
London	Showers	▲64 ▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲73 ▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89 ▼82
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲61 ▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲93 ▼78
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼63
Osaka	Showers	▲72 ▼67
Paris	Rain	▲68 ▼52
Pusan	Windy	▲73 ▼66
Rome	Rain	▲83 ▼65
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲67 ▼47
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲69 ▼56
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼66
Tokyo	Showers	▲73 ▼65
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲79 ▼59

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
1:48 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet	
6:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	
2:12 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
9:23 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends east-southeastward from the Central Philippines through a weak circulation centered west of Koror at 7N130E to another weak circulation centered southwest of Chuuk at 3N146E then finally turns southward to end at EQ146E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near the trough over the Republic of Palau south of a line from 9N130E to 8N137E to 2N144E. Similar weather is also found north of the trough axis over Yap between 8N and 13N from 136E to 141E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near the second circulation southwest of Chuuk within 40 miles of a line from 4N144E to 6N145E to 4N149E and also west of Chuuk between 6N and 9N from 147E to 150E. A surface trough runs northwestward from 4N160E to 10N155E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present near the trough over Pohnpei within 105 miles of a line from 7N156E to 9N164E and farther south between the equator and 5N from 157E to 162E. Scattered showers are evident southeast of Chuuk within 100 miles of a line from 2N152E to 7N155E. A trade-wind disturbance is causing numerous showers and isolated Thunderstorms over Kosrae island, Jaluit, Mili and Tarawa atolls between the equator and 6N from 163E to 180. Trade-wind convergence is coupling with divergent upper winds to produce scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of the Marshall Islands within 95 miles of a line from 11N165E to 14N174E and also northwest of Majuro between 8N and 13N from 174E to 180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:48 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Monday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:15 PM	5:49 AM
Friday	8:08 PM	6:49 AM
Saturday	8:56 PM	7:46 AM
Sunday	9:39 PM	8:41 AM
Monday	10:19 PM	9:33 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6	MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6	OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Island Snapshots



HAPPY GRADUATION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Mebric Navisaga, Jennifer Dela Cruz, and Maggie Crisostimo congratulations on your 8th grade promotional ceremony at Chacha Oceanview Junior High School. I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known. Congratulations once again. Have a great summer. From Juavalyn D. San Nicolas



MONETH G. DEPOSA

TOP 10

The Top 10 students of Hopwood Junior High School pose with education officials and guests during their promotional ceremony last Tuesday. The school promoted 484 eighth graders to high school.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PH INDEPENDENCE DAY

MAFEA took part in the June 12, 2011 celebration of the Philippines' 113th Independence Day. MAFEA also elected its new set of officers for 2011 during the event.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DONATION TO JAPAN RELIEF

President K.J. Kim of Laolao Bay Golf Resort on Saipan, in white, presents a \$10,000 donation to the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) Japan Relief Committee for disaster relief in Japan. Accepting the donation on June 10, 2011, at the Marianas Visitors Authority office was committee chair Nick Nishikawa, third from left, joined by other committee members and golf resort management and staff. The presentation follows a \$50,000 donation made by the committee to the Japanese consul of the NMI in April 2011.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Security officers Hiep C. Nguyen and Carol A. McKenzie are recognized by G4S Security Services (CNMI) Inc. as its Employees of the Month for April and May 2011. Both officers are assigned at the Saipan World Resort. They are shown here after being presented with their certificates of appreciation by G4S CNMI branch manager Moises K Pangelinan, Safety & Security manager Mr. Terry, and operation supervisor Altaf Hossain.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IN APPRECIATION

Kieran Daly, the outgoing general manager of Pacific Islands Club Saipan, third from right, is presented a plaque of appreciation by the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands for his support of Northern Marianas' tourism during his tenure at PIC from 2002 to 2011, including several terms on the HANMI board of directors. The presentation was made on June 10, 2011, at PIC. Pictured from left are director Ivan Quichocho, vice chair BK Park, chair Nick Nishikawa, secretary Hiroki Sugie, Daly, treasurer Mike Johnson, and legal counsel Marcia Schultz.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RAFFLE WINNER

Eric Dizon, left, receives the keys to Aqua Resort Club purchasing manager Ted Malaran's 1989 Hi-Lux Toyota Pickup Truck. The Guandong Hardware warehouse staff won the truck after taking part in a raffle. Malaran, seen here handing the keys, is bidding adieu to Saipan after making the island his home for 22 years.

AYUYU GRADUATES

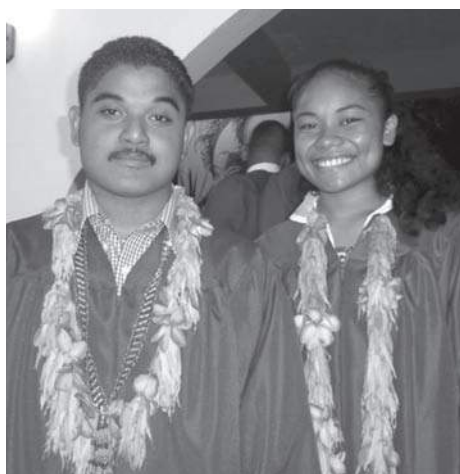
Right, congratulation to Kagman High School 2011 graduates Roland Victor Saimon Tagabuel and Elizabeth Tagabuel Moded on your accomplishments. Good luck on your future aspirations. Love, your A-Town families, Tagabuel clans, and Coketown Crew!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WELCOME TO HIGH SCHOOL

Center, Ken San Nicolas, back, Maelyn Naputi, front, congratulations on your 8th grade promotional ceremony. You made it! Now its high school time. Have a great summer guys! Greeting from Juavalyn D. San Nicolas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



A GREAT DAD

Advance happy Father's Day to Daddy Stanley Songao Santos! We thank you for everything you've done for us, you're the best Dad ever. We love you very much. Greetings come from your four Girls, four boys and your granddaughter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

Biden 'confident' of more than \$1T in deficit cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—Even as Vice President Joe Biden gave his most optimistic assessment yet of budget talks he's leading, President Barack Obama's Democratic allies in the Senate signaled Tuesday a harder line on Medicare. That stance is complicating any effort to produce a deal to cut the deficit by \$2 trillion or more over the coming decade or so.

Biden said that he's confident that the talks will produce an agreement on cutting the deficit "well beyond" \$1 trillion over 10 to 12 years. The talks are aimed at finding spending cuts to accompany must-do legislation allowing the government to continue to borrow to finance its operations and avoid defaulting on U.S. bonds.

Senate Democrats promised that any Medicare cuts in the measure would come from health care providers rather than cutting back benefits. The hard line came even as Republicans showed at least some willingness to kill special interest tax breaks this year with a vote on ending the annual \$5



Vice President Joe Biden arrives at the Capitol for a stepped-up round of debt reduction talks on Capitol Hill Tuesday, June 14, 2011 in Washington.

billion ethanol tax subsidy.

Leaving the Capitol after the group's seventh negotiating session, Biden said he's convinced that the group can come up with an agreement that increases the so-called debt limit and makes signifi-

cant headway on Obama's promise to cut the deficit by \$4 trillion over the next decade or so.

Republicans insist that increasing the nation's \$14.3 trillion debt limit be matched with a commensurate level of

spending cuts. But they also want the legislation to provide enough borrowing room so that there would only need to be one vote on the politically toxic topic before next year's elections. However, it would take cuts in the \$2.5 trillion range to meet both the GOP requirements and even Biden's rosy update seems to leave the group short of the goal.

The task wasn't made any easier with Tuesday's vow by top Senate Democrats that any deal this summer to cut the deficit won't cut benefits for people enrolled in Medicare.

"We will not allow cuts to seniors' benefits," said Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y.

Republicans are pressing for savings from the rapidly growing Medicare program, but Democrats stand adamantly

against proposals to raise the eligibility age for the program, require wealthier seniors to pay more for Medicare or boosting copayments for visits to doctors and hospitals.

While Democrats are holding firm on Medicare cuts, Republicans maintain that tax increases are also "off the table." Unless either side shows flexibility, that makes it difficult, to say the least, to come up with deficit savings in the \$2 trillion-plus range.

Ironically, the firmer Medicare stance came as Senate GOP conservatives rallied behind a move to cut off the \$5 billion-a-year subsidy for ethanol blenders. The 45-cent-per-gallon subsidy comes in the form of a tax break, even though it's considered by budget gurus as a direct subsidy.

NAVFAC Marianas awards \$14.6-million projects to small business

SANTA RITA, Guam—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas awarded June 8 an \$8.1 million project for the construction of a Commando Warrior open bay student barracks, and another \$6.5 million for construction of a Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron (RED HORSE) headquarters/engineering facility to Overland Corp., a HubZone-certified small business based in Ardmore, Oklahoma, has been awarded.

NAVFAC Marianas also awarded a \$7.5 million firm-fixed-price task order to Guam Pacific International LLC, a small business of Barrigada, Guam, for construction of a combat communications operations facility at Andersen Air Force Base.

The Commando Warrior open bay student barracks will be a reinforced concrete student basic training dormitory with laundry, hygiene and shower facilities to accommodate 150 personnel. The facility will in-

clude a reception area, ready rooms, equipment wash down areas and storage spaces.

"This project represents continued military investment in a critically important training area for the Air Force at Northwest Field," said Lt. Alan Eichelman, resident officer in charge of construction, Andersen AFB. "It will enhance Air Force training capabilities and support regional operations."

Construction of the RED HORSE squadron headquarters/engineering facility will include reinforced concrete foundation and floor slab, structural steel frame, masonry walls, standing seam metal roof, fire detection/protection systems, utilities, site improvements, landscaping, emergency response access pavements, roads, parking, and communications support.

Construction of the open bay student barracks will be completed by June 2012, and the RED HORSE squadron headquarters/engineering facility will be completed by October 2012. Both projects were

awarded under a previously awarded small business multiple award construction contract, with six proposals received in each solicitation.

In the other bid award, the contract is to build a reinforced concrete facility with office spaces, briefing/training rooms, an administration area, mechanical and electrical spaces, and communications and fire suppression/detection systems at the Andersen Air Force Base. The work also includes environmental controls, utilities, pavements, parking, and associated site improvements.

"This is another fine example of a small business that has successfully demonstrated its capabilities to meet our enduring military construction requirements," said Capt. Peter Lynch, commanding officer, NAVFAC Marianas. "Not only will the work support a new facility for the Air Force, but it will also incorporate sustainable design strategies and features that will allow us to meet federal environmental mandates."

Reports point to lower food prices, more hiring

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans are finally getting some relief from high gas and food prices.

Wholesale food prices fell last month by the most in nearly a year, and gas prices keep dropping after peaking in May. A separate survey suggests CEOs are feeling more optimistic and will hire more in the second half of this year.

It amounted to welcome news Tuesday after a rough patch that has stoked worries the economic recovery is slowing. More jobs and lower prices would both give Americans more money to spend on other things and rejuvenate economic growth.

Food prices at the whole-

sale level fell 1.4 percent, the Labor Department said. It was the largest drop since last June. About 40 percent of that decline resulted from steep declines in vegetable and fruit prices.

The drop in food prices followed harsh winter freezes, which had driven up prices of tomatoes and other vegetables in February. Even if prices don't fall further, economists say they probably won't go much higher, at least.

It may take as long as six months, but lower wholesale prices should work their way to the grocery store.

"That's a good thing for consumers, and it's even better that it comes in parallel

with lower energy prices," said Gregory Daco, U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight.

Overall, the producer price index, which measures price changes before they reach the consumer, rose 0.2 percent in May. That's much lower than April's 0.8 percent gain and signals that inflation is in check.

Gas prices at the wholesale level rose in May by the smallest amount in eight months. At the pump, they're coming down. On Tuesday, the national average was \$3.70 a gallon, according to AAA. Gas has fallen steadily since the national average almost hit \$4 a gallon in early May. It's still about a dollar more expensive than a year ago.

New rules to cut confusion on sunscreen claims

WASHINGTON (AP)—Help is on the way if you're confused by the maze of sun protection numbers and other claims on sunscreens.

Starting next summer, you can start looking for SPF 15 bottles and tubes with the label "broad spectrum" and feel confident they're lowering your risk of skin cancer.

Under new rules published Tuesday, sunscreens will have to filter out the most dangerous type of radiation to claim they protect against skin cancer and premature aging. "Broad spectrum" is the new buzzword from the Food and Drug Ad-

ministration to describe a product that does an acceptable job blocking both ultraviolet B rays and ultraviolet A rays.

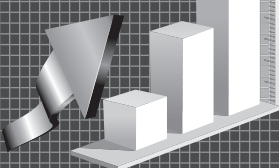
If a sunscreen doesn't protect against both, or the sun protection factor is below 15, then it has to carry a warning: "This product has been shown only to help prevent sunburn, not skin cancer or early skin aging."

The guidelines, which spent more than 30 years in bureaucratic limbo, are designed to help consumers like Paul Woodburn, who says he's not sure of the difference between UVA and UVB rays and that he judges sunscreen by one factor alone.

"The SPF number is what counts for me," the 55-year-old Indianapolis resident said as he sat next to a public pool. "Beyond the SPF, I don't think anybody really watches."

The new regulations require that sunscreens be tested for the ability to block the more dangerous UVA rays, which can penetrate glass and pose the greatest risk of skin cancer and wrinkles. FDA currently requires testing only for protection against UVB rays, which primarily cause sunburn but can also cause cancer and other damage. That's what the familiar SPF measure is based on.

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,076.11	1,287.87	2,678.72
+123.14	0.00	+39.03
+1.03%	0.00%	+1.48%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms	Australian Dollar	0.9478	Indian Rupee	44.8588	Singapore Dollar	1.2366
	British Pound	0.6132	Indonesian Rupiah	8542.5	South Korean Won	1085.85
	Canadian Dollar	0.9787	Japanese Yen	80.1835	Swiss Franc	0.8378
	Chinese Yuan	6.483	Malaysian Ringgit	3.0415	Taiwan Dollar	28.8205
	Euro	0.6958	New Zealand Dollar	1.2313	Thailand Baht	30.47

Nation

Democrats hoping Rep. Weiner will quit on his own

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Democrats are counting on growing pressure from Rep. Anthony Weiner's colleagues, a suggestion from the president and the return of Weiner's pregnant wife from an overseas trip to persuade him to resign over a sexting scandal in which he sent lewd photos of himself and messages to several women.

The House's top Republican, Speaker John Boehner, joined the chorus of Democrats calling for the New York Democrat to quit. House Democrats went

behind closed doors for their regular party meeting, but they decided against taking action against Weiner in hopes that he'll resign soon.

A fellow member of Weiner's New York Democratic delegation, Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, said before the meeting, "Hopefully, we are hearing he might resign in a couple of days."

When she emerged later, she added: "He's waiting for his wife to come home. That's what we're hearing from his friends."

Weiner's wife, State Depart-

ment official Huma Abedin, is due back from an overseas trip early Wednesday with her boss, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. Weiner, meanwhile, has sought treatment at an undisclosed location and has been granted a two-week leave of absence from Congress.

The House Democratic leader, Nancy Pelosi, made the suggestion again after the meeting, saying she wanted to make sure nobody missed her earlier resignation call while members were on a weeklong recess. Pelosi

said she concluded that "with the love of his family, the confidence of his constituents and the need for help ... Congressman Weiner should resign from the Congress."

Rep. Sander Levin, D-

Mich., said: "I think we should send a strong message to him that he should resign, and let's see what happens. The more of us who say it, the more telling it will be."

But even as top Democrats

tried to pressure Weiner into resigning, Sen. Chuck Schumer, New York's senior senator and the Senate's No. 3 Democrat, has not taken a stand on whether the seven-term congressman, a longtime friend, should resign.

Asked Tuesday about whether he would support whatever Weiner decides about his political future—even if he decides to stay—Schumer focused his comments on the personal side of Weiner's plight. "As I said this weekend, those of us who have been friends with Anthony Weiner for a very long time feel his wrongful behavior is distressing, saddening and heartbreaking," Schumer told reporters. "It's clear he needs professional help. That's what he sought. And that's all I'm going to say."

Schumer, Weiner's political mentor, gave Weiner his first job on Capitol Hill when Schumer was a congressman.

Boehner had been content to let Democrats wrestle with the embarrassing scandal, but when asked Tuesday whether Weiner should resign, responded: "Yes."

Rep. Rob Andrews, D-N.J., said after the Democratic meeting that 95 percent of it concerned energy prices. Andrews said there was no discussion of stripping Weiner of his assignment on the Energy and Commerce Committee, a possibility Pelosi had mentioned Monday night.

Boehner pressures Obama on Libya operation

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Speaker John Boehner urged President Barack Obama on Tuesday to explain the legal grounds for the continued U.S. military involvement in Libya and set a Friday deadline for the commander in chief's response.

The White House said late Tuesday it was nearing completion of an "extensive" response to congressional inquiries.

Ratcheting up the pressure, the Ohio Republican said



Obama

in a letter to the White House that the administration clearly will be in violation of the 1973 War Powers Act this weekend. Obama did not seek congressional consent for the operation within 60 days of the March 19 U.S. airstrikes against Moammar Gadhafi's forces.

"Either you have concluded the War Powers Resolution does not apply to the mission in Libya or you have determined the War Powers

Resolution is contrary to the Constitution," Boehner wrote. "The House and the American people whom we represent deserve to know the determination you have made."

Boehner complained that the administration has provided briefings for lawmakers

but has not sought formal authorization. Seeking an explanation, he asked Obama for answers to constitutional and statutory questions by Friday.

Earlier this month, the House voted to rebuke Obama for failing to pursue congressional approval and accused the president of not providing a "compelling rationale" for the Libyan operation. The House measure also required a report from the administration, due by Friday, on the scope of the Libyan operation, its costs and its impact on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

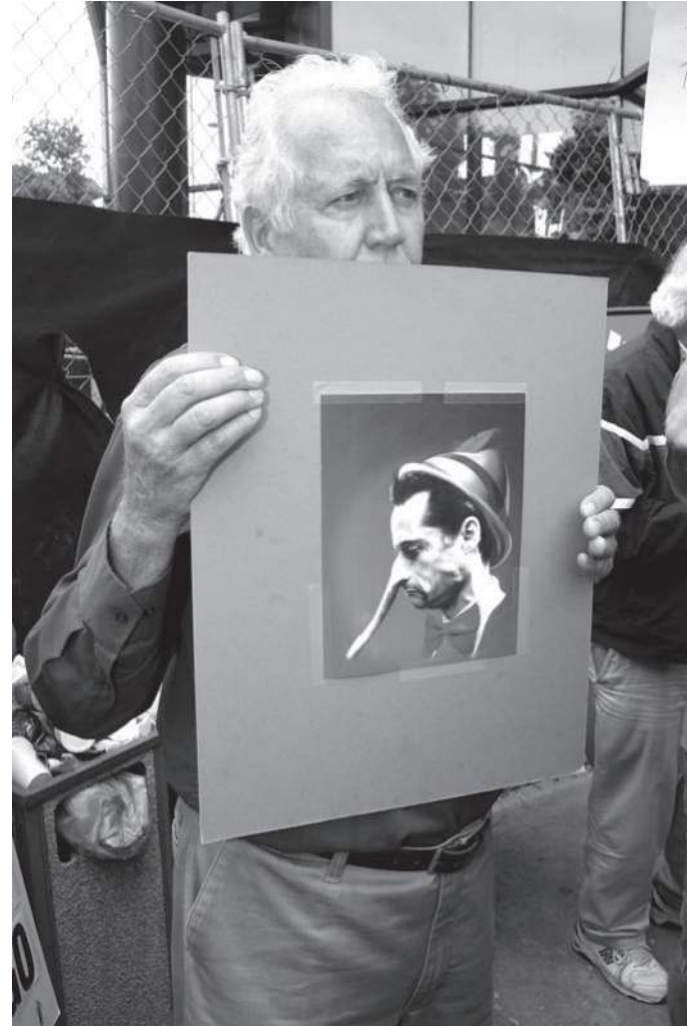
"The ongoing, deeply divisive debate originated with a

lack of genuine consultation prior to commencement of operations and has been further exacerbated by the lack of visibility and leadership from you and your administration," Boehner wrote.

The White House maintains that it has been in compliance with the War Powers Act and has called the resolutions unhelpful and unnecessary.

Initially the White House brushed off the nonbinding House measure, saying it had provided answers at various briefings. But last week it said it will respond to detailed questions on the U.S. mission in Libya within the deadline.

Responding to Boehner's letter Tuesday, White House national security spokesman Tommy Vietor said, "We are in the final stages of preparing extensive information for the House and Senate that will address a whole host of issues about our ongoing efforts in Libya, including those raised in the House resolution as well as our legal analysis with regard to the War Powers Resolution."



AP

Queens resident Dieter Keppler takes part in a rally calling for the resignation of U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., in front of the congressman's New York office Sunday, June 12, 2011.

Obama visits Puerto Rico with eye on US voters

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Wooing Hispanic voters back home, President Barack Obama kept his campaign pledge to become the first president since John F. Kennedy to make an official visit to this recession-battered U.S. territory. "The aspirations and the struggles on this island mirror those across America," Obama declared Tuesday.

On a sweltering day, thou-

sands crowded the main roads and waved flags as Obama's motorcade roared by. A huge banner filled eight stories of a building, featuring the images of Kennedy and Obama. "We are proud to be part of history," it said.

Puerto Ricans are an important component of the fast-growing Hispanic population in the U.S., now totaling 50 million, that Obama wants to mobilize in his re-election campaign.

Even though he spent mere hours on the island, the visit was designed to lift the president's visibility and create goodwill in a territory known as a vacation destination but otherwise something of an afterthought in America.

Residents of Puerto Rico are U.S. citizens but cannot vote in presidential general elections—only in primaries—one of many factors that give rise to a sense of second-class citizenship among some here.

Reaching out to Puerto Ricans is part of a broader effort to court Hispanics, who accounted for more than half the U.S. population increase over the past decade. National exit polls showed that 67 percent of Latinos voted for Obama in 2008, compared with 31 percent for Arizona Sen. John McCain, but some Hispanics have become disillusioned with Obama because of his failure to deliver on promises to overhaul immigration policy.

Obama, who visited as a candidate in May 2008, sought to ensure his Puerto Rican listeners they were not forgotten by his administration.

ACROSS THE NATION

Arizona wildfire near biggest in state history

LUNA, N.M. (AP)—An enormous wildfire in eastern Arizona is poised to become the largest in state history, as firefighters on Tuesday tried to keep the blaze from crossing into New Mexico and devouring a small mountain town. Fires also grew elsewhere in New Mexico and at the state's border with Colorado, where flames forced the closure of a busy interstate highway. In Luna, N.M., evacuation plans are in place for the roughly 200 residents. Crews have been working to protect the town for days, hacking down brush, using chain saws to cut trees and setting small fires to burn anything that the approaching flames could use as fuel. "That's what's saved the town," fire incident command spokesman Sean Johnson said. "The line is holding."

Boy, 8, fatally shoots 5-year-old brother at motel

HOUSTON (AP)—Police say an 8-year-old boy has fatally shot his 5-year-old brother in a Houston motel room where they were staying with their father. The incident happened about 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at a Motel 6 on Interstate 10 in the western section of the city. Police Sgt. Bobby

Roberts says the boys' father had left them alone for a few moments to pay for their room. When he returned, the older boy ran out to meet him and told him of the shooting. The father went inside and found the boy lying on the floor with a gunshot wound to the chest. Roberts says the shooting is apparently accidental, and the Harris County district attorney's office will decide whether the father faces charges.

LA school district votes to ban flavored milk

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles Unified on Tuesday became the nation's largest school district to stop serving flavored milk in a move to combat child obesity. The school board voted to eliminate chocolate and strawberry milk from schools as of July 1. LAUSD joins a growing number of school districts nationwide, including District of Columbia, Boulder Valley, Colo., and Berkeley, Calif., that serve only plain milk because of the added sugar contained in flavored versions. The proposal by Superintendent John Deasy came after popular British TV chef Jamie Oliver criticized the district in recent months for serving flavored milks, saying they contain the sugar equivalent of a candy bar.

Puerto Rico

President Barack Obama's visit to this U.S. territory shines a light on the role Puerto Rican voters could play in the 2012 election; more Puerto Ricans now live on the U.S. mainland than on the island.



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Source: CIA World Factbook,
U.S. Census Bureau
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

Population

Puerto Rican mainland **4.0 million**
U.S. mainland **4.6 million**

Top states

New York **1.1 million**
Florida **847,550**

Government

- Commonwealth; U.S. territory, 1898; residents are U.S. citizens but do not vote in presidential elections
- Head of government
Gov. Luis Fortuna

Economy

- GDP **\$93.5 billion**
- Main exports are chemicals, rum, electronics, apparel, canned tuna

Asia

UN declares Nepal free of land mines



Nepalese Prime Minister Jhala Nath Khanal, standing second left, watches a Nepalese female soldier demonstrate the clearing of anti-personnel landmine after a landmine field was cleared, in Phulchoki, 24 kilometers (15 miles) from Katmandu, Nepal, Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

PHULCHOKI, Nepal (AP)—The United Nations declared Nepal free of land mine fields on Tuesday after the last of the anti-personnel weapons planted by the army while fighting communist insurgents was destroyed.

Prime Minister Jhala Nath Khanal flipped a switch to trigger the last land mine, which had been laid to protect the main civil aviation radio tower in mountains south of the capital, Katmandu.

U.N. official Robert Piper

declared that the mine field in Phulchoki was the last of 53 areas where the army had planted the weapons.

“One more milestone on the road to peace, as we declare Nepal mine field-free,” Piper announced.

The tower at Phulchoki is used by flight controllers to communicate with planes flying across the Himalayan nation. It was guarded by an army camp, which was surrounded by a land

mine field to protect against attacks by the Maoist rebels.

“Today is a historical day because Nepal has been liberated from all kinds of land mines,” Khanal said.

However, there still are areas where homemade bombs were planted by both sides, and efforts to clear those continue, Piper said.

Land mines explode by themselves when someone walks nearby, while homemade bombs are normally set off by a combatant.

ministrator Midas Marquez.

He said broadcasts of the trial must continue from the beginning until the end of a day’s session and must not be interrupted by commercials.

Court hearings are held twice a week at a maximum-security detention facility inside a police camp. A day’s session typically lasts about six hours with a lunch break of about an hour.

The Supreme Court also said broadcasters cannot set up their own cameras inside the court,

which will provide a camera with a wide angle view of the court room. Radio and television reporters are not allowed to comment on the proceedings live, the guidelines said.

President Benigno Aquino III, who wrote the court to support the petition for live coverage last year, praised the court for its decision, saying “it is important to learn what happened and how this happened” to ensure that such a massacre won’t be repeated.

killed a nursing home resident. The latest quakes—the strongest of which was 6.0 in magnitude—left tens of thousands without electricity on a winter night when temperatures approached freezing. By afternoon, around 7,000 households were still without power. The power company Orion said it was providing generators to fill some of the gap. Water supplies were also compromised, and Mayor Bob Parker was encouraging people to boil their water.

China says its nuclear reactors passed inspections

BEIJING (AP)—China’s nuclear regulators have given the country’s reactors a clean bill of health following inspections ordered in the wake of the disaster at Japan’s tsunami-struck Fukushima Dai-ichi facility. Vice Environment Minister Li Ganjie says inspections have been completed on all 13 of China’s currently operating reactors in a process very similar to those in place in Europe and the United States. Further safety reviews of 28 reactors now under construction should be completed by October, Li was quoted as saying in a statement posted on the ministry’s website.

PH allows live coverage of massacre trial

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine Supreme Court will allow live broadcast coverage of the trial of members of a powerful clan accused in the killing of 57 people including 31 journalists in the country’s worst political violence, a spokesman said Tuesday.

The tribunal, however, has set conditions that could cause problems for broadcasters, which have petitioned the court for live coverage since the trial started last year, said court ad-

ASIAN BRIEFS

US cites terror threat in new Philippine warning

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The U.S. State Department has renewed its travel warning for the Philippines, saying terrorist attacks could occur in the restive southern region and even in the capital, Manila. The latest travel advisory for U.S. citizens replaces a similar warning issued in November. The Philippine government has complained that such warnings fail to take into account an improving security situation. Al-Qaida-linked militants have been blamed for bombing attacks and kidnappings in the southern Philippines, where Muslim rebels have been fighting for self-rule for decades. Wednesday’s U.S. advisory says that indiscriminate attacks also could target sites in Manila, including areas such as airports and malls.

Power mostly restored after NZealand quakes kill 1

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Power was mostly restored to New Zealand’s quake-damaged city of Christchurch on Tuesday after strong aftershocks brought down more buildings and

World

Tanks, troops move to snuff out Syria resistance

BOYNUYOGUN, Turkey (AP)—Syrian tanks and the government’s most loyal troops pushed into more towns and villages Tuesday, trying to snuff out any chance that the uprising against President Bashar Assad could gain a base for a wider armed rebellion.

Facing the most serious threat to his family’s 40-year ruling dynasty, Assad has abandoned most pretenses of reform as his military seals off strategic areas in the north and east—including the town of Jisr al-Shughour, which was spinning out of government control before the military moved in on Sunday.

“The (Syrian forces) damage homes and buildings, kill even animals, set trees and farmlands on fire,” said Mohammad Hesnawi, 26. He fled Jisr al-Shughour over the weekend and spoke to The Associated Press from this border area of Turkey, where some 8,000 Syrians are seeking refuge in camps.

Pro-democracy activists, citing witnesses, said the military also surrounded al-Boukamal, along the Iraqi border, an area

that was a major smuggling route for insurgents and weapons into Iraq in the 2000s. Syrian officials have expressed concern over a reverse flow of arms into Syria, and in March security forces seized a large quantity of weapons hidden in a truck coming from Iraq.

Activists say more than 1,400 Syrians have died and some 10,000 have been detained in the government crackdown since the popular uprising began in mid-March, inspired by the revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt.

Assad initially responded with vague promises of reform, but the increasingly deadly government crackdown has only added fuel to the movement. Thousands of protesters across the country now vow to continue until Assad leaves power.

There is no sign of that, however. The crackdown has obliterated a view held by many in Syria and abroad of Assad as a reformer at heart, one constrained by members of his late father’s old guard who were fighting change, especially

privileged members of the Assad’s minority Alawite sect.

An offshoot of Shiite Islam, the Alawites represent about 11 percent of Syria’s population, which is overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim. The sect’s longtime dominance has bred resentments, which Assad has worked to tamp down by pushing a strictly secular identity in Syria.

But Assad is now relying heavily on his Alawite power base to crush the resistance, particularly amid rumors that Sunni army conscripts have been refusing to fire on civilians.

The president and commander-in-chief’s latest military moves in the north and east are being carried out by his most trusted forces—many of them Alawites whose fate is linked to the regime’s. The bloody new push, against civilians who took up arms and reportedly military mutineers, was clearly designed to keep the opposition from establishing a base, as happened in Libya, where rebels trying to overthrow Moammar Gadhafi took over Benghazi.

Yemen sees largest protests since president left

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Hundreds of thousands of Yemenis demonstrated in nearly every major city of the country on Tuesday, demanding trial for the family and close aides of the ailing president.

They were the largest protests since President Ali Abdullah Saleh went abroad for medical treatment for injuries suffered in an attack on his compound. Some of Saleh’s family and closest aides remained behind, and Yemen remains locked in a power struggle between the president’s allies and tribesmen demanding an end to the regime’s nearly 33-year rule.

In Washington, the State Department’s counterterrorism coordinator said the U.S. is worried that the ongoing unrest in Yemen could fuel connections between al-Qaida-linked militants there and al-Shabab insurgents in Somalia.

The American official, Daniel Benjamin said insurgents in Yemen are trying to take advantage

of the turmoil in their country, are operating more in the open and have been able to acquire and hold more territory.

Residents in Shabwa, one of the al-Qaida strongholds in southern Yemen, are reporting intensifying overflights by U.S. drones, suggesting the Americans are keeping close watch on the situation.

The CIA is trying to speed up construction of a Persian Gulf base for its drones, but the process is being held up by logistic delays, U.S. officials said. The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive security matters, said the base is at least eight months away from completion.

The Associated Press has withheld the exact location at the request of U.S. officials.

In Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council discussed ways to resurrect their initiative aimed at resolving the crisis. The United States and Saudi

Arabia are trying to persuade the ruling party to move forward with the GCC deal that would end Saleh’s rule, hand power to his vice president, create a unity government and conduct elections within two months. Saleh accepted the idea three separate times but balked at the last minute.

On Tuesday, tens of thousands of young people crowded outside the home of acting president Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who assumed power when Saleh left. The crowd vowed to stay outside Hadi’s home—which is protected by special forces led by Saleh’s son—until their demands were met.

Many in Saleh’s inner circle remain in positions of power, including his son Ahmed, who commands the special forces and Yemen’s Republican Guard. Hadi’s role in the power struggle is unclear, but he has met with the opposition, suggesting he’s willing to exercise some constitutional authority.

WORLD BRIEFS

Europe seeks new ways to tackle Greece’s debt load

BRUSSELS (AP)—When it comes to credit worthiness, Greece suddenly finds itself in a very lonely place. “CCC” is the label rating agency Standard & Poor’s slapped on the country Monday night, dropping it to rank 131 of 131 states that have a sovereign debt rating. That suggests Greece’s creditors are less likely to get their money back than those of Pakistan, Ecuador or Jamaica. It’s an astonishing low for Greece. As recently as January 2009, the country still had a stellar A rating despite a hefty debt burden. Becoming a member of the euro club in 2001 was meant to insulate Greece from its precarious financial history, which has seen it in default for much of the time since independence in 1829.

More flights halted by ash from Chilean volcano

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—The cloud of ash spewing from a volcano in Chile grounded more flights Tuesday in South America, forcing Peru’s president-elect to cross a river by boat and threatening to delay the start of the continent’s football championship. The schedule of next month’s Copa America could be altered if the ash cloud from Chile’s volcano keeps grounding flights, Argentine Football Association President Julio Grondona said. “We’re watching it closely and it’s for sure that teams are not ready to come to Buenos Aires,” Grondona told Argentine broadcaster Radio 10. “The tournament starts July 1 and we hope that within five or six days the problems with the ash will not exist.”

Focus

Skyrocketing food prices leave poor moms hungry

THUAN THANH, Vietnam (AP)—

Vo Thi Quan's chopsticks needle deftly between two simple Vietnamese dishes sizzling on a hot plate. In her crude brick kitchen, she's working magic to create a dinner out of next to nothing.

Her table has gone two years without meat, so shredded pieces of hardened tofu fill the protein void. Cheap stalks of fried water spinach and a vegetable omelet complete the small meal that must be shared by four. It cost about half the money Quan earned scavenging scrap all day.

She eats last from the smallest bowl, nibbling slowly, to keep the rest of the family from going hungry. She even manages to save some of the meal for breakfast.

As world food prices surge to the highest levels ever recorded due to a combination of production constraints and rising demand from expanding middle classes, many poor families teeter on the edge, and it is the mothers who often quietly bear the brunt.

It's difficult to measure the impact of the food crisis on mothers, but even before it began, the U.N. World Food Program said women made up about 60 percent of those going to bed hungry every night worldwide. With cultural practices in some countries dictating that women and girls eat last, many are now making do with even less.

"They are more likely to skip meals and eat less to ensure their children and husbands get most of their meals," said Hassan Zaman, a World Bank economist on poverty reduction and equality.

The Asian Development Bank estimates some 64 million people worldwide have already nose-dived below the poverty line over the past few months due to the food-price crisis.

Quan's simple dinner cost about 27,000 dong (\$1.32). That's up about 20 percent from a year ago after inflation spiked to double-digit levels in Vietnam, which has one of Asia's fastest growing economies but also an average monthly income that still hovers around \$100 a month.

Since the beginning of the year, electricity has also shot up 15 percent in the communist country of 87 million, while gasoline prices hit a record high following a 17.5 percent to 24 percent increase at the pumps.

Quan and her husband were struggling even when the cost of living was lower. They have one daughter who is mentally disabled and another who has battled cancer. And with their tiny budget squeezed tighter than ever, she sees only one solution. It's a choice made each day by desperate mothers everywhere.

"My income is not stable, so we have to eat less," the 44-year-old says. "Mostly we have vegetable soup and sometimes we use cooking oil to make stir-fried vegetables."

Seven days a week, Quan wakes at 5 a.m. and takes four buses three hours roundtrip to reach Vietnam's sprawling financial hub, Ho Chi Minh City, in the country's south.

She pushes a metal cart along a river running black with raw sewage and polluted sludge near the slum where



In this April 11, 2011 photo, Vo Thi Quan, 44, left, her husband Hanh, 46, top right, and their two daughters, Tuyen, right, and Trieu have dinner with rice, leafy green spinach fries, tofu and an omelet, which costs about 27,000 dong (US\$1.32), at their home in Thuan Thanh, Long An province, Vietnam. As world food prices surge to the highest levels ever recorded due to a combination of production constraints and rising demand from expanding middle classes, many poor families teeter on the edge, and it is the mothers who often quietly bear the brunt.



In this April 11, 2011 photo, Vo Thi Quan, 44, pushes a metal scrap cart near a slum area where she earns her living by going door-to-door in search of scrap in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam. She walks miles every day in the heat, wearing a conical hat and gloves to keep her skin from sunburn. She scavenges plastic soda bottles, broken electric fans, cardboard and anything else that can be resold. On a good day, she said she'll bring in the equivalent of \$5.00, but most of the time it's \$2, or 3. As world food prices surge to the highest levels ever recorded due to a combination of production constraints and rising demand from expanding middle classes, many poor families teeter on the edge, and it is the mothers who often quietly bear the brunt.

"If she gets sick again, I'm not sure where the money would come from," the mother says softly. "She might die."

With so much debt, Quan started buying discounted day-old produce and was forced to stop buying meat, except for small portions just for Tuyen to help rebuild her strength. Pork and beef prices skyrocketed during the 2008 food crisis, and they have only gone higher during the latest round of hikes. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization said global food prices hit an all-time high in February and dropped off only slightly in March and April.

Quan's family has continued to go without meat, except once a year during the Lunar New Year holiday, known as Tet. To help keep them from going hungry, last year Quan's in-laws gave the family a small plot of land to farm enough rice for their table—a smart move since the cost of rice in Vietnam is now among the most expensive in Asia, having jumped nearly 40 percent between June 2010 and February.

The savings from the rice crop should have helped the family slowly recover,

but rising food prices have dashed their hopes of putting any money aside. Instead, they live meal to meal.

Quan says they have no means to repay the family loan, and she constantly fears they will miss bank payments. But none of that matters when balanced against her biggest worry—the cancer returning.

Experts say a catastrophic family illness, accident or financial shock like a jump in food costs often breaks those who are just squeaking by. Escalating food prices are forcing some to eat seeds reserved for next year's crop. Others have to cut back intake altogether, skipping meals and rationing what little can be bought.

"Children who are deprived of enough nutrition, of enough food, at a crucial stage in their life suffer permanent reductions in their height and their weight," said Mahesh Patel at UNICEF's regional office in Bangkok. "We are especially concerned about the situation of children when malnutrition is rising in general in the population as a result of food prices rising."

Pregnant women also are at risk by eating less and resorting to cheaper, poor-quality foods that can result in low birth weights.

For Quan, the well-being of her three daughters is paramount. The oldest is in college, studying to be a teacher, and the whole family is pinning their hopes on her success.

"I'm willing to sacrifice to do whatever I can to give my kids an education," Quan says proudly. "I don't want to see my children have the same fate as me."

After cooking the evening meal, she places the dishes on the table. The mismatched plates, glasses and bowls, along with every other fixture in the concrete, tin-roofed house, have been scavenged from the streets.

Her 47-year-old husband arrives with their youngest daughter, Trieu. She runs smiling and leaps onto her mother, wrapping both arms and legs around her in a huge hug.

Trieu is much smaller than other girls her age. She learned to walk at age 4 and talk at age 6, and now attends a special class for mentally disabled children. Those school fees, along with the amount paid for the eldest daughter's college expenses, eat up half of the \$200 Quan and her husband earn every month. Food accounts for nearly the rest of their income.

As a cool breeze blows and the sun fades, the family washes up for dinner.

Quan's husband makes a sucking sound as he quickly shovels in mouthfuls of tofu, rice and omelet before reaching for seconds. Quan digs through the choice pieces of tofu with her chopsticks, hand-feeding them to little Trieu. She then fills her tiny bowl and chews slowly, picking at the rice and twigs of spinach while leaving the protein-rich egg and bean curd for the others.

When everyone is finished, Quan scurries to wrap up what's left for a breakfast only her husband and daughters will eat.

She will rise early and leave the house on an empty stomach, hoping to earn enough to make a little more magic in the kitchen tomorrow.

she earns her living going door-to-door in search of scrap. She walks miles every day in the oven-like heat, wearing a tattered conical hat and blackened gloves to keep her skin from baking. She collects plastic soda bottles, broken electric fans, cardboard, anything that can be resold for a few pennies.

On a good day, she'll bring in the equivalent of \$5, but most of the time it's just \$2 or \$3. Her husband, Nguyen Ngoc Hanh, spends half the year farming rice and the other half working with Quan, but he also stays home at times to care for their 11-year-old mentally disabled daughter.

Quan has been hunting for scrap nearly half her life, but she doesn't complain. Vietnamese women have always served as the country's workhorses, digging ditches, carrying bricks and shoveling hot asphalt on roads.

She's happy to labor 13 or 14 hours a day, only to come home to do the laundry, cooking and cleaning. But she is consumed by a nagging fear she cannot control, no matter how hard she works.

Two years ago her middle daughter, Nguyen Thanh Tuyen, then 14, was stricken with a life-threatening bone cancer and the family's meager savings were quickly devoured. Even though they qualified for some free medical care, it did not cover chemotherapy, X-rays, visits to specialists and expensive medicines.

The family took out a 30 million dong (\$1,470) bank loan, and relatives pulled together another 30 million that can be repaid slowly without interest. Tuyen, now 16, survived only by having her right leg amputated at the hip, leaving her hobbling on worn crutches because the family cannot afford a proper prosthetic.

Environment

Implementation of Endangered Species Act undergoes makeover

» US Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries launch joint effort

WASHINGTON, DC—Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced Friday last week that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries Service have launched a joint effort to identify and implement administrative changes to the Endangered Species Act aimed at accelerating recovery of imperiled species, enhancing on-the-ground conservation delivery, and better engaging the resources and expertise of partners to meet the goals of the ESA.

"The Endangered Species Act has made a tremendous contribution to the conservation of imperiled animals and plants, preventing the probable extinction of hundreds of species across the nation and contributing to the recovery of the Bald Eagle, the Peregrine Fal-

con and many other iconic species," Salazar said. "While we celebrate its successes, we recognize there is much that can and should be done to make the Act more effective and efficient. We expect to identify solutions that will help us improve our administration of this landmark conservation law."

"We need to ensure that our regulations and policies effectively address the conservation challenges of today," said Fish and Wildlife Service acting director Rowan Gould. "We will ensure that the public and our partners have ample time to review and comment on any regulatory changes we may propose, in order to incorporate the best thinking of endangered species experts from across the country—as well as the people

and communities who are affected by the ESA."

"We will take advantage of more than three decades of experience in implementing the Act," said Eric Schwaab, assistant administrator for Fisheries, NOAA

ON THE NET

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/improving_ESA/reg_reform.html

Fisheries Service. "Our shared goal is to improve recovery of imperiled species, enhance our ability to achieve meaningful conservation on the ground and better engage the resources and expertise of our partners to meet the goals of the Act."

This review and update of regulations, policies, and guidance is consistent with President Obama's Executive

Order 13563, *Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review* and is outlined in the Department of Interior's *Preliminary Plan for Retrospective Regulatory Review*.

The effort will focus on the essence of the Endangered Species Act—recovering species—and strive to make administrative and regulatory improvements, while remaining true to the intent of the ESA as

enacted by Congress. The Services are not seeking any legislative changes to the ESA, because the agencies believe that implementation can be significantly improved through rule-making and policy formulation.

The Services will work to harness the expertise of career agency employees, the conservation community, landowners and other affected interests, and the broader public, to address

selected issues. In particular, efforts will focus on:

- Clarifying, expediting, and improving procedures for the development and approval of conservation agreements with landowners, including habitat conservation plans, safe harbor agreements, and candidate conservation agreements;

- Reviewing and revising the process for designating critical habitat to design a more efficient, defensible, and consistent process;

- Clarifying the definition of the phrase "destruction or adverse modification" of critical habitat, which is used to determine what actions can and cannot be conducted in critical habitat; and

- Clarifying the scope and content of the incidental take statement, particularly with regard to programmatic actions or other actions where direct measurement is difficult. An incidental take statement is a component of a biological opinion that specifies the impact of an incidental taking of an endangered or threatened species and provides reasonable and prudent measures that are necessary to minimize those impacts. Greater flexibility in the quantification of anticipated incidental taking could reduce the burden of developing and implementing biological opinions without any loss

of conservation benefits.

The Endangered Species Act was enacted in 1973 to protect plants and animal species threatened with extinction. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, an agency of the Department of the Interior, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service, an agency of the Department of Commerce, work together with state and federal agencies, local governments, tribes, private landowners and the public to protect and promote the recovery of the nation's imperiled species. Under the ESA, the Interior Department is primarily responsible for terrestrial and fresh water species; the Commerce Department has the lead responsibility for most marine and anadromous species, such as salmon.

The Endangered Species Act currently protects more than 1,300 species in the United States and about 570 species abroad. An additional 249 species have been identified as candidates for protection under the Act. Many of the regulations implementing provisions of the ESA were promulgated in the 1980s and do not reflect advances in conservation biology and genetics, as well as recent court decisions interpreting the Act's provisions.

'A Sea Change' in July

If you think global warming is tough, you don't know the half of it.

Come to the next First Friday Films on July 8 and uncover the rest of the story. We will be presenting *A Sea Change*, a film that tackles the twin of global warming, ocean acidification, and its effects to our ocean, our corals and our marine animals. The event will start at 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center.

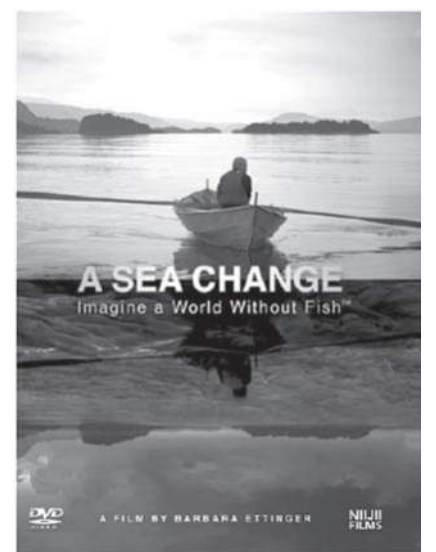
If you live in an island that heavily depends on coral reef for tourism and sea creatures for sustenance, wouldn't you want to know what is happening to them now and what might happen to them in the future? Sven Huseby, an ordinary grandfather, wants to know. Recipient of the 2010 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Environmental Hero Award, *A Sea Change* follows the journey of Sven as he travels from Alaska to Norway to uncover that the global ocean is slowly becoming too acidic for the creatures that live in it.

First Friday Films is a monthly environmental film series organized by the National Park

Service and the Division of Environmental Quality.

The Pacific Historic Parks (formerly the Arizona Memorial Museum Association) Bookstore, located inside the visitor's center, will be open until 8:30pm. All proceeds go to community education programs.

As always, First Friday



Films is free and open to the public. For planning purposes, the movie runs 1 hour and 23 minutes long; find more information about the film at www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. Subscribe to the blog for regular updates on upcoming events. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Francisco Palacios, an energy technician for the UOG Center for Island Sustainability, conducts a game show for students enrolled in the University's 4-H Summer Camp.

The University of Guam's 4H Summer Camp offers several different workshops this summer with the June 14 session focused on sustainability and renewable/alternative energy sources suitable for Guam.

UOG Green Interns and the Center for Island Sustainability staff conducted the outreach session for students ages 9-15.

Campers engaged in many activities including observing a real solar array and aquaculture tank in action. They also had hands-on opportunities to see how solar cells and solar remote control cars generate power. Students also competed in a question and answer game show about renewable/alternative energy sources and played energy conservation board games created by UOG Green interns.

"Students learned about the issues and challenges we are facing in terms of energy use and how it relates to our environment, economy, and society," said Francisco Palacios, CIS energy technician. "Importantly, they were given useful information about what they can do to help find solutions to these issues and make behavior changes in their own lives." (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

4H Campers test out a solar powered mini-fan during the UOG Center for Island Sustainability and UOG green outreach activity.

Life & Style

Janet Jackson 'Nasty' in the Louvre, with fab show



Diane Kruger, left, and Joshua Jackson arrive for a charity benefit performance of pop star Janet Jackson in Paris' Louvre Museum in Paris, Tuesday June 14, 2011.

PARIS (AP)—It's a safe bet that the Louvre Museum, that hallowed sanctuary that houses the Venus de Milo, the Mona Lisa and countless other priceless artistic treasures, has never seen moves quite like Janet Jackson's.

The Grammy-winning pop princess gave her raunchy fabulous best for a good cause on Tuesday, bumping and grinding her way through a raucous set at a glitzy charity gala Tuesday inside the museum.

The concert—the highlight of the “Liaisons au Louvre” benefit, with proceeds going to the museum—was a first-ever for an institution more often associated with string quartets in period costume than sexed-up American pop divas.

Held under I.M. Pei's iconic pyramid, Jackson's performance was loud

enough to make the glass paneling reverberate overhead. Jackson, sporting a white crocodile pantsuit and surrounded by a cadre of crotch-grabbing dancers, belted out a medley of her greatest hits, including 1986's “What Have You Done For Me Lately,” “Miss You Much” and “Rhythm Nation,” both from 1989, as well as her trademark hit “Nasty.”

Astonishingly for a posh charity event—where cumbersome evening gowns tend to keep guests glued to their seats—Jackson had the well-heeled crowd of about 300 up and dancing.

“Her music is the soundtrack of all our lives,” gushed Lucas Somoza, a 29-year-old Houstonian who now lives in Paris. “She is one of the iconic singers of our times and to see her live

is mind-blowing.”

The Louvre closed early to the public Tuesday to receive guests including Prince Albert II of Monaco and actress Diane Kruger, as well as hundreds of art lovers and do-gooders with deep pockets. They sipped flutes of Champagne as they ambled among the works of art and explored private chambers once belonging to Louis XIV, the Sun King, before dining in a covered sculpture garden. The “Liaisons au Louvre” event is organized by Becca Cason Thrash, a Houston-based philanthropist whose work for the museum has made her a beloved figure in France.

“Americans have done so much for culture here in France. They saved Versailles and Giverny,” Culture Minister Frederic Mitterrand told The Associated Press, referring to the sprawling royal palace in the Paris suburb of Versailles and the home of Impressionist painter Claude Monet in the northern Normandy region. “I can only applaud the work done by Mrs. Thrash, who's one of those marvelous Americans who put so much time and effort into saving the precious things we're lucky enough to have in this country.”

Thrash herself played auctioneer at the event, using her Southern charm to up the ante and fetch the highest possible price for lots including luxury holidays and a painting by Richard Price, which went for \$700,000. Other top lots included an African safari (which fetched \$90,000), a yacht trip (\$100,000) and a Marrakech getaway (\$50,000).

Thrash called on the bidders by name, rewarding those who heeded her appeals to raise the bid with a “Thank you, baby!” When at one point the quick-witted Texas belle lost her balance and nearly toppled over, she recovered and asked, foxily, “Who will give me \$100,000 to catch me when I fall?”

Tuesday's gala capped three days of festivities for the out-of-town attendees, including a dinner at the American ambassador's residence and a trip to a chateau outside Paris.

Elizabeth Petersen, a Houston fundraiser and longtime friend of Thrash, called the experience “magical.”

“It's glamour for a good cause,” said Petersen, looking red-carpet-ready in her white pearl and feather-covered gown. “It makes you feel like royalty just being here.”

“Plus, we're letting the culture soak in by osmosis,” she said, gesturing at the treasures that fill the sprawling museum, formerly a royal palace in the heart of Paris.

The first “Liaisons au Louvre” gala raised \$2.7 million in 2008. Funds from Tuesday's gala will help restore a Louis XV drawing room, organizers said.

portrait of 17th-century Cavaliers.

The prize recognizes English-language books in the areas of current affairs, history, politics, science, sport, travel, biography, autobiography and the arts.

The winner will be announced July 6.

Bono, Taymor all smiles as 'Spider-Man' opens



Bono, left, Julie Taymor and The Edge arrive at the opening night performance of the Broadway musical “Spider-Man Turn Off the Dark” in New York, Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

NEW YORK (AP)—Julie Taymor was welcomed back with open arms Tuesday to the musical from which she was fired just three months ago, receiving a standing ovation and kisses from cast members, collaborators Bono and The Edge and the creative team after the curtain fell on opening night.

“I just want to thank everybody, especially the cast and crew, the musicians and this creative team that I got to work with for a long time,” the Tony Award-winning director said from the stage.

Taymor got the biggest cheers of anyone on stage and chants of “Julie! Julie!” anticipated her emergence on the Foxwoods Theatre stage.

The Tony Award-winning co-writer and director was fired from the \$70 million “Spider-Man” in March after delays, accidents, poor audience reaction and money woes turned the musical into a punch line.

Earlier in the night, Taymor, Bono and The Edge were all smiles as they posed for photos on the red carpet, a very public reconciliation from the original creators who had separated as the show's problems mounted.

“We absolutely love Julie and always have. As artists, we've been very, very close. She poured her whole life into this project,” Bono said outside the Foxwoods Theatre. “Tonight she's here to host it.” The show, with music by the two members of U2, was reworked from top to bottom and officially opened after a record-setting preview period.

“We were trying to do something that's never been done. And that's very hard to do. And we were right in front of everybody,” Taymor said on the red carpet. “That's difficult.”

Among the celebrities on hand for opening night were President Bill Clinton and daughter Chelsea, Matt Damon, Barbara Walters, Cindy Crawford, Jay-Z, Steve Martin, Liam Neeson, Vanessa Redgrave, Spike Lee, Andrew Lloyd Webber and John McEnroe.

“These guys have persevered,” McEnroe said, before using a tennis analogy. “It's like a long five-setter but they're still in it.”

The principal cast—Reeve Carney as Peter Parker/Spider-Man, Jennifer Damiano as Mary Jane Watson, T.V. Carpio as a spider-woman named Arachne, and Patrick Page as the Green Goblin—have been with the production since the tortured beginning.

Asked what he had learned about putting on a Broadway show, lead producer Michael Kohl smiled. “It's much more difficult than I ever expected,” he said. “God shows you: When you get cheeky,

calm down. You ain't seen nothing yet.”

Bono, too, said he felt humbled following in the footsteps of such iconic songwriters as Rodgers and Hammerstein, Rodgers and Hart and Irving Berlin. “We found out it's harder than you think,” he said about writing a musical.

The show's planned opening was initially set for Feb. 18, 2010, but financial issues forced producers to suspend work. A new opening was set for Dec. 21, but that was pushed back to Jan. 11, then again to Feb. 7 and then to March 15. “Spider-Man” has broken the record for the longest preview period in Broadway history.

Injuries to several cast members—including a 35-foot fall by a stunt actor playing the web-slinger that left him with a skull fracture and cracked vertebrae—marred the production, as well as the defection of a lead actress after she suffered a concussion.

Many theater critics grew impatient and their reviews that appeared in early February—a violation of the established agreement by critics to wait for opening night to weigh in—were mostly savage pans.

Producers finally intervened in March, firing Taymor and shutting down the show for four weeks to retool. Taymor was replaced by Philip William McKinley, who directed the Hugh Jackman musical “The Boy From Oz,” in 2003.

McKinley, former director for Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey, said the red carpet reminded him of the Big Top. Asked how he felt, McKinley said, “Relief as well as excitement.” He later posed with Taymor, Bono and The Edge.

Co-book writer Glenn Berger and newly hired playwright Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, who has written comic books and for the HBO series “Big Love,” toned down the story's darker themes, and expanded the romantic angle between Peter Parker and Mary Jane.

Bono was determined to move forward. “Things got chaotic. It's all in the past now,” he said. “It's just one of the most wonderful things I've ever seen. Now you just forget about the past. I think it's going to have a very, very bright future.”

Consistently strong weekly revenues are critical for the show to break even and to begin repaying investors. Last week the show earned \$1.2 million—a little more than 60 percent of its \$1.9 million potential.

“We've heard all the news about it,” said author Janet Langhart, married to former Defense Secretary of Defense William Cohen, as they waited to enter the theater. “Finally we're turning on the light.”

Books on Mao, Bismarck up for nonfiction prize

LONDON (AP)—Books about a German general, a Chinese tragedy and a bad-boy Renaissance artist are among six titles nominated for Britain's richest nonfiction book award, the Samuel Johnson Prize.

Jonathan Steinberg's “Bismarck: A Life,” Frank Dikotter's “Mao's Great

Famine” and Andrew Graham Dixon's “Caravaggio” are shortlisted for the 20,000 pound (\$32,000) prize.

The other finalists are “Liberty's Exiles,” a study of the American loyalist diaspora by Maya Janasoff; Matt Ridley's upbeat “The Rational Optimist” and “Reprobates,” John Stubbs'

After all day meetings, Cage settles case with ex



AP
In this Feb. 22, 2011 file photo, actor Nicolas Cage arrives at the premiere of the feature film "Drive Angry" in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nicolas Cage starred in a courthouse drama Tuesday that included negotiating sessions with a judge and ended with the actor settling a multimillion dollar lawsuit with an ex-girlfriend.

The Oscar-winning actor spent more than six hours at a downtown courthouse, repeatedly meeting with the judge who brokered an end to the case filed over payments and a house that Cage's ex-girlfriend claimed she was promised.

Dressed in black suit and tie, Cage faced off with his ex, Christina Fulton, throughout the day. Flanked by deputies he hurriedly walked past her in a hallway when he arrived Tuesday morning and both were apparently present for a final meeting with Superior Court Judge Teresa Sanchez-Gordon that

solidified the deal.

He did not speak to reporters when he left just as the courthouse was closing at 4:30 p.m.

Fulton sued Cage in December 2009, claiming he owed her \$13 million, had ruined her finances and broke a promise to give her a house in the upscale Los Angeles neighborhood of Hancock Park. The payments, Fulton claimed, were in exchange for raising for the couple's son, who is now 20 years old.

Fulton's attorney, K. Lee Crawford Boyd, said the arrangement allowed Cage to become a megastar.

"If Nicolas Cage had to step in and be a parent, he could not be

Nicolas Cage," she told the judge.

The actor denied wrongdoing and his attorneys pointed out that the actor paid Fulton \$3 million annually to support her and their son.

Tuesday's marathon settlement discussions came after Sanchez-Gordon ruled Tuesday that Fulton couldn't sue Cage for breaching an oral contract to transfer ownership of the Los Angeles house to the former actress, saying the claim was barred by a statute of limitations.

The issue of ownership of the house was one of Fulton's main claims against Cage, although she could have still pursued negligence claims against the actor

that he and his former business manager ruined her finances by obtaining credit in her name.

The "Leaving Las Vegas" and "Con Air" star has had his own share of financial woes, with tax liens and other debts forcing him to sell homes and other property.

Sanchez-Gordon urged the parties to reach an agreement, saying it was the "best option for everybody involved."

Boyd said she could not comment on the settlement, but that the case was ended to the "mutual satisfaction" of all parties. "We're happy it's been resolved," said Cage's attorney, Thomas Dunlap.

Schwarzenegger's mistress breaks silence

LONDON (AP)—Arnold Schwarzenegger's former housekeeper has spoken out about having a child with the ex-governor, saying her son Joseph only learned about a year ago who his father was.

Mildred Baena has kept a low profile since the revelations of her affair with the former California governor sparked a tabloid frenzy.

The scandal exploded into public view after Schwarzenegger and wife Maria Shriver announced in May that they were splitting up after 25 years of marriage. Then came an admission by the former two-term governor a week later that he fathered a child with a member of the household staff. Baena reportedly worked for Schwarzenegger and Shriver for 20 years.

In an interview published Tuesday by Hello! magazine, Baena said that when her now 13-year-old son, Joseph, learned who his father was his response was simply: "Cool!"

The mother and son posed for the magazine in one of the first published pictures of Joseph—

both with slight smiles, Baena perched behind her son with her hand on his arm.

Baena said she wasn't initially certain Schwarzenegger was the father but started to see a resemblance in her son as Joseph grew older.

"It became more apparent as time went on," the former housekeeper said. "I knew Arnold was the father, and maybe as Joseph got older and began to look like him, he (Arnold) wondered. But he never said anything to me."

She said Shriver also grew suspicious as whispers circulated in the household over the similarities between Joseph and her boss. Baena said Shriver finally asked "point blank" if the boy was Schwarzenegger's son, and was "so strong" when faced with the truth.

"She cried with me and told me to get off my knees," Baena said. "We held each other and I told her it wasn't Arnie's fault, that it takes two."

Schwarzenegger has put his Hollywood comeback on hold to sort out his personal life in the aftermath of the scandal, and

Baena stressed that the former governor is "a good man."

"I know he's suffering too," she said. "He loves Maria. I hope with time they work things out."

Schwarzenegger spokesman Adam Mendelsohn and Shriver spokesman Matthew DiGirolamo said they had no comment on the report.

Samuel L. Jackson reads 'Go the (Bleep) to Sleep'

NEW YORK (AP)—Samuel L. Jackson is narrating the audio book for the profane hit nursery rhyme "Go the (Bleep) to Sleep."

The star of such films as "Pulp Fiction" and "Snakes on a Plane" is known for his way with a four-letter word. "Go the (Bleep) to Sleep" is this summer's surprise hit by tired dad Adam Mansbach.

The hardcover book and audio version went on sale Tuesday. Pre-orders have kept the book high on the Amazon.com best-seller list for weeks. Film rights have already been sold.

A free download of the book is available through audible.com. The 62-year-old Jackson was a presenter at Sunday's Tony Awards. He's set to make his Broadway debut this fall as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in "The Mountaintop."



Jackson

Tracy Morgan returning to Nashville to apologize

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Comedian Tracy Morgan plans to return to Nashville next week to apologize to audience members who were offended by an anti-gay rant during a stand-up show on June 3.

During the performance, the "30 Rock" actor told the audience that if his son were gay, he would "pull out a knife and stab" him. Morgan already has issued a public apology, saying he went too far, even for a com-

edy show.

On Tuesday, Morgan publicist Nicole Chabot confirmed that Morgan agreed to the Nashville meeting at the request of Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation President Jarrett Barrios.

Morgan also agreed to meet with gay and lesbian youth in New York City this week.

And he will participate in a GLAAD public service campaign to combat anti-gay bullying.

Fox Business host: Sorry for racist slams at Obama

NEW YORK (AP)—A Fox Business host is apologizing for what detractors have called racist insults directed at President Barack Obama.

In a brief mea culpa, conservative host Eric Bolling said on his Monday broadcast that he "got a little fast and loose with

the language." He says he's sorry his remarks were interpreted as disrespectful.

On Friday, Bolling criticized Obama's recent meeting with Ali Bongo, president of the African nation of Gabon, who is viewed by some as a corrupt leader.

Bolling went on to say it's not

the first time Obama has had "a hoodlum in the hizzouse."

The rapper Common recently appeared at a White House poetry event despite complaints that some of his poems promote violence.

Bolling said, "What's with all the hoods in the hizzy?"

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Super 8
 Friday & Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55
 Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
 Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:30
Kyle Chandler, Elle Fanning
 Science Fiction • PG 13

Synopsis

Writer/director J.J. Abrams teams with producer Steven Spielberg for this period sci-fi thriller set in the late '70s, and centering on a mysterious train crash in a small Ohio town. Summer, 1979: a group of young friends are filming a Super-8 movie when a pickup truck derails a speeding train. When the locals start to disappear and even the inquisitive deputy can't come up with answers, suspicions emerge that the incident was anything but an accident.



Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer
 Friday & Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
 Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05
Jordana Beatty, Heather Graham
 Children's/Family • PG

Synopsis

Megan McDonald's popular series of children's books comes to life on the big screen in this family friendly adventure that finds mischievous third grader Judy Moody experiencing a summer she'll never forget. School is out, and with the endless possibilities that summer has to offer, Judy (Jordanna Beatty) plans to have fun in the sun with her best pals Rocky and Amy.



X-Men: First Class
 Friday & Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
 Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
 Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10
James McAvoy, Michael Fassbender
 Action, Fantasy • PG 13

Synopsis

Set in the era before Professor Charles Xavier and Erik Lehnsherr became mortal enemies as Professor X and Magneto, respectively, director Matthew Vaughn's X-Men: First Class follows the two former allies as they lead a powerful team of mutants on a mission to save the planet from nuclear annihilation. Charles (James McAvoy) and Erik (Michael Fassbender) were just young men when it began to appear as if the world was careening toward destruction.



Oba: The Last Samurai
 Friday & Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:50
 Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
 Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20
Yutaka Takenouchi, Sean McGowan
 Drama • NR



Kung Fu Panda 2
 Friday & Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
 Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00
Jack Black, Angelina Jolie
 Children's Family • Rated PG



The Hangover Part 2
 Friday & Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:40
 Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
 Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25
Bradley Cooper, Zack Galifianakis
 Comedy • Rated R



Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides
 Friday & Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
 Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15
Johnny Depp, Penélope Cruz
 Adventure • Rated PG 13

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Christina Aguilera joins Maroon 5 on new single

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Christina Aguilera and Adam Levine of NBC's talent show "The Voice" are putting their voices together on a new Maroon 5 single.

Aguilera is featured with Levine and his band on the tune "Moves Like Jagger," which will be released next week on iTunes.

They'll perform the song on the June 21 episode of "The Voice," airing 9-11 p.m. EDT. The studio version will be available to buy online following the show, NBC announced Tuesday during this week's episode.

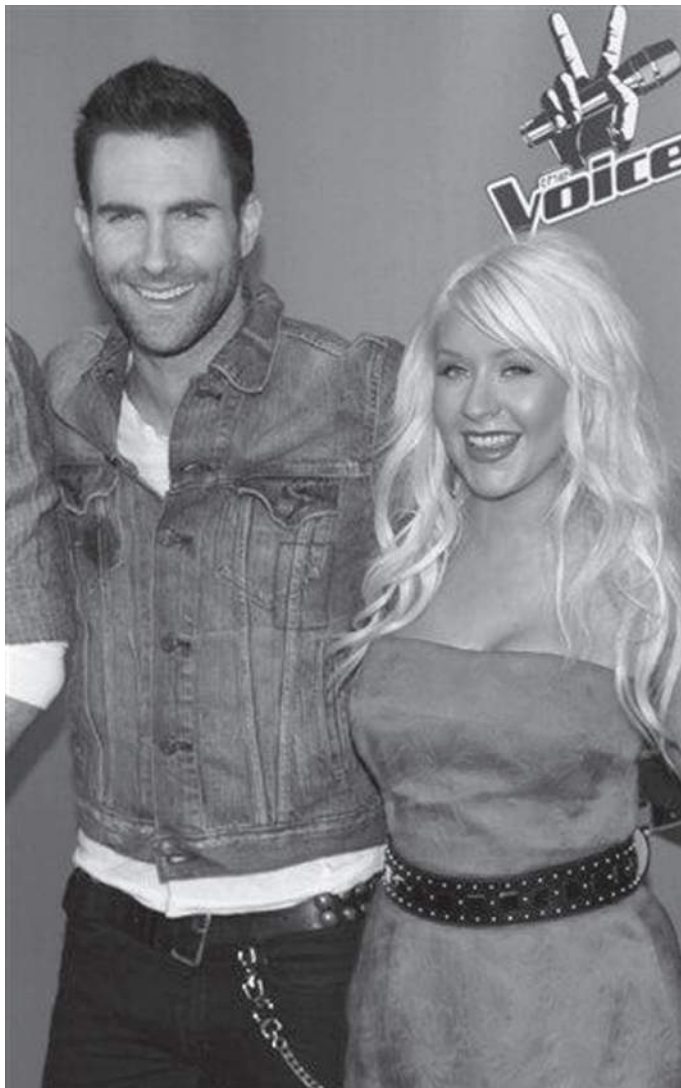
The track was recorded last month in Los Angeles, Levine

said in a statement, adding that it was "great" getting to work with Aguilera. The song was described as quintessential Maroon 5 power pop, with an upbeat tune.

Aguilera called the collaboration a "wonderful opportunity."

Levine and Aguilera, along with Cee Lo Green and Blake Shelton, are coaches on "The Voice," which awards the winning singer a record contract and a \$100,000 prize.

Levine won't be idle for long after the June 29 season finale: Maroon 5 is co-headlining a North American summer tour with Train that begins July 22 in California.



AP
In this March 15, 2011 file photo, judges for the television competition series "The Voice," Adam Levine and Christina Aguilera pose at Los Angeles Center Studios. Aguilera and Adam Levine are putting their voices together on a new Maroon 5 single.

Report: Natalie Portman gives birth to a baby boy

NEW YORK (AP)—Natalie Portman has a baby boy to go along with her Oscar.

The actress gave birth to her first child with fiancé Benjamin Millepied, the choreographer of "Black Swan," People magazine reported.

The magazine gave no details. A publicist for Portman did not return a message seeking comment Tuesday.

The 30-year-old actress and Millepied, a well-regarded ballet dancer and choreographer, met during the making of "Black Swan," Darren Aronofsky's psychological thriller that stars Portman as a ballet dancer.

Portman won the best actress Academy Award in February for her performance in the movie.



AP
In this Feb. 27, 2011 file photo, Natalie Portman poses backstage with the Oscar for best performance by an actress in a leading role for "Black Swan" at the 83rd Academy Awards in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.

Playboy's Hugh Hefner says Playmate called off wedding

CHICAGO (AP)—Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner says his fiancée has called off their wedding.

The 85-year-old Hefner says in a Tuesday message on Chicago-based Playboy's official Twitter feed that 24-year-old Crystal Harris has "had a change of heart."

Hefner announced in December that he and the former

Playmate were getting married, tweeting that he'd given Harris an engagement ring. He has said that the wedding was scheduled for this Saturday at the Playboy Mansion in the Holmby Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles.

The marriage would have been Hefner's third. He divorced Playmate Kimberly Conrad in 2009.

Springsteen: Band mate Clemons' stroke 'serious'

NEW YORK (AP)—Bruce Springsteen says band mate Clarence Clemons' stroke was serious and he's going to need a lot of help to get back to his former self.

The Boss commented Tuesday on his longtime friend and E Street Band member on his website, Twitter and Facebook. It's the first time he's spoken since it was revealed Sunday that the 69-year-old Clemons had suffered a stroke.

Springsteen calls the saxophonist a "beloved comrade" and described the stroke as "serious."

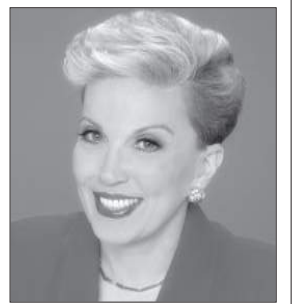
He says: "Clarence will need much care and support to achieve his potential once again." Springsteen says Clemons is surrounded by wife Victoria, other family and friends, and thanked fans for their prayers and good thoughts.

Clemons' family also thanked fans on Springsteen's site and urged fans to email their well wishes to notestoclarence(at)clarencelemons.com.

Clemons' nephew, Jake Clemons, said on Facebook, "Keep sending the love, he feels it all!!"

Elusive Mr. Right turns out to be miss right instead

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I have never been moved to write in response to a letter until I read "Concerned About My Girl in Kentucky" (May 9). It was from a mom who was worried that while her daughter "Celia" had no problem attracting men, she has a problem keeping them.

My intelligent, caring, creative, adventurous and beautiful daughter had successful, handsome and wonderful men throwing themselves at her. A couple of dates and they were never heard from again. When I asked, "What's the problem?" she would shrug her shoulders. I thought she was being too picky, and when the right man came along he'd sweep her off her feet and all would be well.

One day, my daughter came to me and said she had met someone. I said, "Tell me about him." She replied, "Who said it has to be a 'him'?" My daughter was just as surprised as I was to discover she is a lesbian.

She is now in a relationship with a wonderful woman. I'm glad she realized this at 25 instead of 55, after living a life that wasn't hers because she thought that was what was "expected." She's happy now, and so am I.

PROUD MOM IN ROCHESTER, N.Y.

DEAR PROUD MOM: Thank you for sharing your daughter's happy revelation. The following responses may offer other interesting insights for "Concerned" to consider. Read on:

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: You suggested Celia ask her friends for feedback. My very attractive friend "Jan" has had two failed marriages and four short-term relationships. In the last five years, she has had many first dates—only.

She asks, "What is wrong with these guys? Don't they know what they want?" None of us will respond because Jan isn't really looking for an answer, and we're all afraid of being the target of her wrath. It's ALWAYS the other person's fault. When a friend tries to be helpful by offering gently worded suggestions, this friend gets her head bitten off and returned on a platter.

Some people don't want to improve themselves because they're content to complain and blame someone else instead of taking their own inventory.

BACKING OFF IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR ABBY: My mother's dream was to have all her children married with six or more children and living happily ever after in wedded bliss. MY dream was to live alone with five dogs in a quiet, rural area. "Concerned" may be putting too much pressure on her daughter, causing her to rush into relationships and scaring the men away. Celia needs to sit down and figure out what she wants for herself. Then, maybe, the man of her dreams will come to her.

REALISTIC READER IN MICHIGAN

DEAR ABBY: I had a friend in college who was smart, beautiful, funny and a great cook. But she rarely had a second date. Her problem was she never shut up! She was constantly talking and, even when engaged in a conversation, she would frequently interrupt and carry on without listening to the other person. If she had asked me why men avoided her, I would have told her the truth, but I was never given the chance.

IS IT MY TURN TO TALK?

DEAR ABBY: Speaking as a guy who has regretfully had to pass on three "Celias," I know there is one likely possibility that her friends may not realize or have the heart to tell her: Lose the cats.

NOT A DEVOTEE OF CHAIRMAN MEOW

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)



AP
In this Oct. 30, 2009 file photo, Clarence Clemons, a saxophonist in Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band since 1972, reacts during an interview in New York.

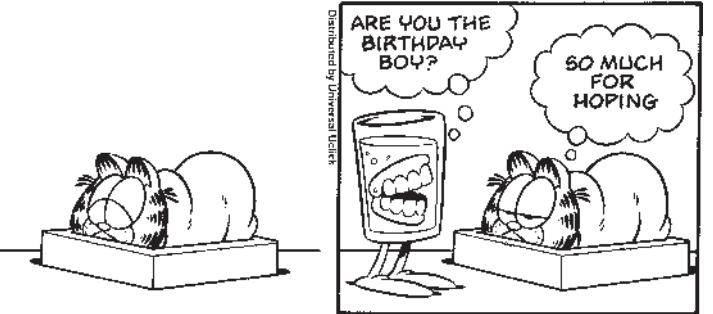
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

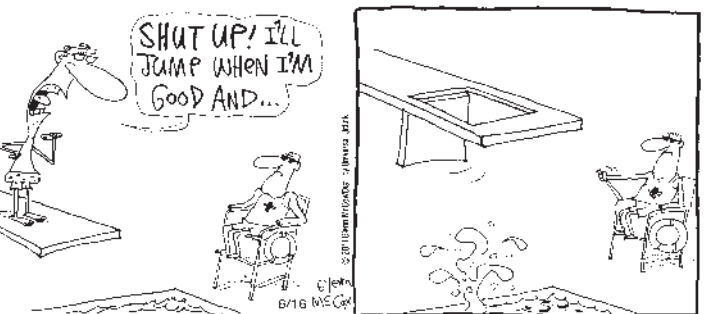
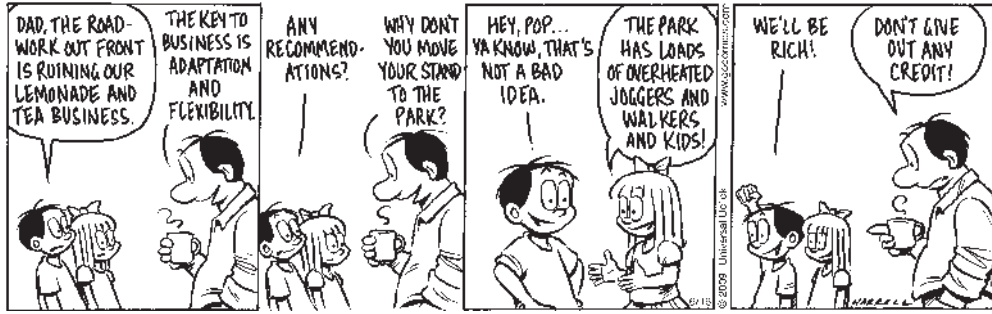


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Con game

5 Not-so-tall tale

8 Front projection

12 Needing a cane

13 Earlier than

14 Hold sway

15 Intl. cartel

16 Actress Gardner

17 Elevator name

18 Railyard sight

20 Result

22 Every last bit

23 15-Across' product

24 Gulleys

27 And so on

32 — Beta Kappa

33 Vast expanse

34 Blue

35 Unrelenting pest

DOWN

19 Mr. Pacino

21 "Uialume" writer

24 Speedometer stat

25 "Caught ya!"

26 Brit's radio

28 Ball-bearing gizmo

29 Negligent

30 Knock

31 Billboards

36 Sailor's assent

37 Collection

38 Find not guilty

41 Therefore

42 Challenge

43 Love deity

44 Uncomplicated

46 "Do — others ..."

47 "Zip — -Doo-Dah"

48 — River, NJ

51 Struggle (for)

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-16

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Keshia Chante, 23; Abby Elliott, 24; Eddie Cibrian, 38; Laurie Metcalf, 56

Happy Birthday: Determination, coupled with skill and know-how, will lead to good partnerships and financial stability. Don't allow anyone to take advantage of you. Take care of your money matters and stay true to yourself. Put yourself first, no matter how much you want to please someone else. Your numbers are 2, 8, 20, 24, 29, 37, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Ignore the people giving you a hard time and focus on those who share your concerns and interests. A pleasure trip or visiting someone who lifts your spirits will help you make an important professional change. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Connecting with old friends will bring back a lot of memories but can also lead to habits that were hard to break. Don't fall into a pattern that will set you back. Position yourself for success. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll be eager to make changes but, before you do, consider the cost involved. Be smart about your budget and personal expenses. Don't let someone you love cost you financially. Focus on long-term investments. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep everything out in the open so you aren't blamed for being secretive or hiding information. Offer what you can but don't promise more than you can do. Set personal and professional boundaries. Practical applications will be your best bet. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Spread the word around regarding what your plans are for the future and you will get a great response and the help you need. Love is in the stars and, whether you nurture your current relationship or are about to embark on a new romance, you will do well. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Trying to hide something will make you look bad and will stand in the way of your advancement. Getting involved in after-hour business events will help you stay in touch with colleagues or clients. Change is good and can be lucrative. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Share your thoughts and ideas with people of like interests. You can get the backing you need from outsiders but don't expect the people you are most familiar with to understand what you are trying to accomplish. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will be able to clear up a problem that you have been forced to deal with for some time. It's up to you to ask for what you want and to demand justice and fair play. A partnership will develop that can turn into a profitable endeavor. Don't be shy; welcome change. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can turn your ideas and plans into a reality. Love, romance and family are highlighted and the things you do now to make your personal life better will bring about a stable

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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future. You can develop an enhanced lifestyle that better suits your personality. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't hide the way you feel or nothing will change. Be aggressive and go after what you want so you can move forward. A change at home will benefit you personally, emotionally and financially. Strive to reach your goals. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Give whatever you pursue your all. You have everything to gain by being a participant. Don't be afraid of change—it's required in order to achieve your dreams, hopes and wishes. Wasting time is the enemy. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Steer clear of emotional matters that will bring you down. Get out and interact with people who enjoy the same pastimes and who will contribute, not hold you back. Avoid making changes at home that might be costly. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are curious and willing to take a risk. You are popular and clever in the way you approach life.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

6 2 4 7 8

1 8 9 6 2

3 7 5 8 9

4 5 1 7

1 3 4 9 5

Difficulty Level ★★★

6/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4 5 6 7 2 9 3 8 1

2 9 7 1 3 8 5 6 4

3 1 8 6 5 4 9 2 7

7 6 4 5 9 3 2 1 8

9 2 3 8 1 6 7 4 5

1 8 5 4 7 2 6 3 9

6 7 9 3 4 1 8 5 2

5 3 1 2 8 7 4 9 6

8 4 2 9 6 5 1 7 3

Difficulty Level ★★★

6/16

WONDERWORD

By DAVID QUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PARTY PLANNERS

Solution: 8 letters

P S S D E L A I C E P S E N D

L L Y C E C N A D S R O L O C

A L A O R W T A N B U F F E T

Y A D N N E E O M L A F C C C

C H H O R E O D V A I B F S S

N B T E C L E I D C E E Y N R

E O R T L C C T E I S T E O E

G S I A G T A R X T N E S I S

A S B T O N E S I I T G E T P

V F A R A M I V I L S C S A O

R E I D O T A T F O A S S U N

O E N N U L I E H P N T E D S

S S I U S L A V S G R S R A E

E E G U E S T S N Y I I D R S

S W E E T S S O C I A L A G E

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Yesterday's Answer: Fairy Tale

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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PAY LEVEL : 11/03 – 11/08
ANNUAL SALARY : \$10,598.03 - \$13,519.16
LOCATION : Marianas Visitors Authority, Tinian
Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

JVA 11-002

POSITION TITLE : Administrative Officer II
PAY LEVEL : 28/1-28/8
ANNUAL SALARY : \$20,484.60 – 28,807.51
LOCATION : Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan
Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

JVA 11-003

POSITION TITLE : Tradesman
PAY LEVEL : 13/03 – 13/08
ANNUAL SALARY : \$11,278.940 - \$14,388.82
LOCATION : Marianas Visitors Authority, Tinian
Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

JVA 11-004

POSITION TITLE : Trades Technician II
PAY LEVEL : 22/01 – 22/08
ANNUAL SALARY : \$15,860.10 - \$22,302.94
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Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

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Verlander flirts with no-hitter, Tigers top Tribe



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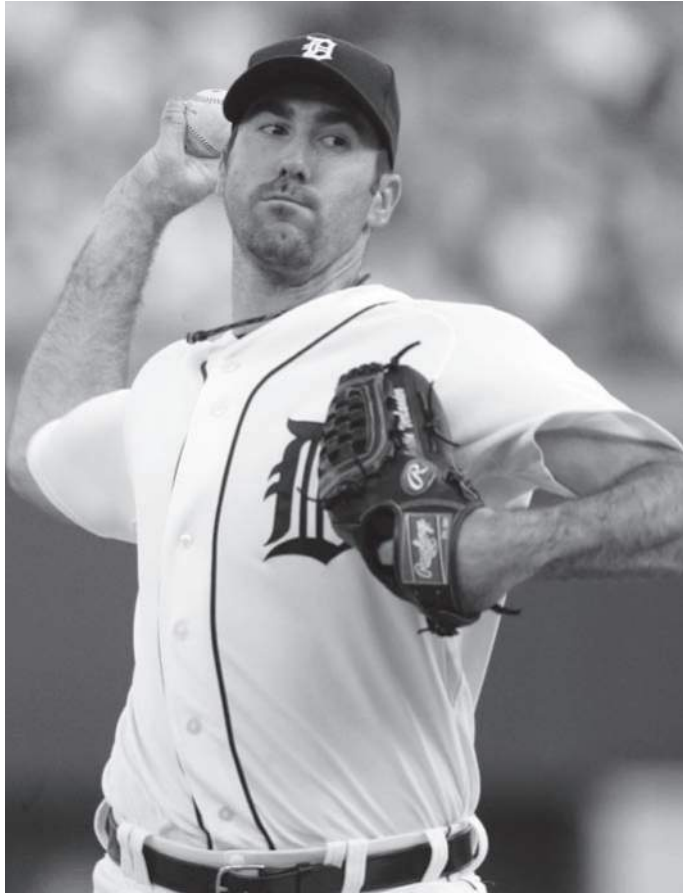
Justin Verlander almost pitched another no-hitter, taking his latest bid into the eighth inning to lead the Detroit Tigers past the Cleveland Indians 4-0 Tuesday and into first place in the American League Central.

With two no-hitters already on his resume, including one in Toronto last month, Verlander (8-3) struck out a season-high 12 and dominated the slumping Indians until Orlando Cabrera lined a clean single to center with one out in the eighth for his 2,001st career hit.

The hard-throwing right-hander finished with a two-hitter, giving Detroit sole possession of the division lead for the first time this year. He walked one, hit a batter with a pitch and has won six straight decisions.

Andy Dirks drove in two runs for the Tigers, who have won 12 of 16.

Yankees left hander Jim Abbott was the last pitcher to hold Cleveland hitless on Sept. 4, 1993, in New York.



AP
Detroit Tigers starter Justin Verlander pitches against the Cleveland Indians in the third inning of a baseball game Tuesday, June 14, 2011 in Detroit.

Rays 4, Red Sox 0

At St. Petersburg, Florida, James Shields pitched his AL-leading third shutout for Tampa Bay to end first-place Boston's nine-game winning streak.

In addition to cutting into their deficit in the AL East standings, the third-place Rays ruined a Tropicana Field homecoming for Carl Crawford, who signed a \$142 million, seven-year contract with Boston after helping Tampa Bay win the division two of the past three seasons.

Crawford went 0 for 3 with one strikeout against Shields (6-4), who allowed five hits, walked three and struck out five en route to his AL-best fourth complete game.

Justin Ruggiano homered off knuckleballer Tim Wakefield (3-2) in the fifth and Tampa Bay added an unearned run without getting a hit in the sixth, when Evan Longoria scored on catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia's second passed ball of the inning.

Yankees 12, Rangers 4

At New York, Curtis Granderson

homered and drove in four runs, and Eduardo Nunez — filling in for an injured Derek Jeter — sparked a six-run second inning with an RBI single and New York beat Texas.

Robinson Cano and Nick Swisher also connected in the Yankees' first game since Jeter was placed on the 15-day disabled list for the first time since 2003 because of a strained right calf.

Brett Gardner scored three of the four times he reached base, had an RBI single among three hits and stole his 100th base batting in Jeter's leadoff spot. Alex Rodriguez hit a two-run double for an efficient offense that scored 12 runs on 14 hits, two walks and a hit batter.

Granderson singled in two runs and Mark Teixeira had a two-run double in the second when New York batted around and knocked out Alexi Ogando, his second rough outing in the Bronx.

Blue Jays 6, Orioles 5, 11 innings

At Toronto, Adam Lind homered to lead off the 11th inning and

give Toronto a victory over Baltimore that snapped a four-game losing streak.

The Blue Jays have won 15 straight at home against Baltimore since Aug. 7, 2009.

Lind connected against Koji Uehara (1-1) and finished with two RBIs. Aaron Hill also homered for the Blue Jays and Shawn Camp (1-1) pitched a scoreless inning for the win.

Matt Wieters' two-run homer off Toronto reliever Marc Rzepczynski in the eighth tied it at 5. J.J. Hardy had three hits for the Orioles.

Angels 4, Mariners 0

At Seattle, Jered Weaver allowed just five hits for his second shutout of the season and finally got some run support on the road thanks to a four-run first inning as Los Angeles beat Seattle.

The Angels took advantage of one awful inning from Mariners starter Doug Fister (3-8) and Weaver made that one outburst stand up to give the Angels franchise its 4,000th win.

Weaver (8-4) allowed four singles and Ichiro Suzuki's

ninth-inning double in his third complete game of the year. He struck out six and walked one.

Torii Hunter, Howie Kendrick, Russell Branyan and Peter Bourjos all had run-scoring hits in the first as Los Angeles sent nine batters to the plate.

Royals 7, Athletics 4

At Oakland, California, Alcides Escobar had three hits and two RBIs, and Danny Duffy pitched six innings for his first major league win as Kansas City beat Oakland to spoil the home debut of Athletics interim manager Bob Melvin.

Billy Butler had a two-run double to help the Royals to their fourth victory in five games. Kansas City improved to 3-1 on its road trip following a 4-7 homestand.

Duffy (1-2) gave up two runs and four hits, pitching out of trouble. Joakim Soria worked the ninth for his 10th save in 15 chances.

Hideki Matsui homered and scored twice for the A's, who lost for the 13th time in 14 games and fell a season-high 12 games under .500.

Nationals 8, Cardinals 6

At Washington, Ryan Zimmerman hit a run-scoring double in his return from the disabled list to spark a six-run seventh-inning as the Washington Nationals beat the St. Louis Cardinals.

Zimmerman had missed 58 games because of an injured abdominal muscle. He doubled down the right-field line to drive in the Nationals' first run of the seventh.

Washington's last four runs in the inning scored with two outs. The tying run scored on a wild pitch and the Nationals took the lead on a bases-loaded walk.

The six-run inning matched the Nationals' best this season, and extended their winning streak to four games, also tying their season best.

Albert Pujols and Lance Berkman hit home runs for St. Louis, which has lost a season-high four straight games.

Mets 4, Braves 3

At Atlanta, Jose Reyes had three

hits, two steals, an RBI and scored two runs to lead New York past Atlanta.

Jair Jurrjens (8-3), who began the night with the best ERA in the majors at 1.82, set season highs with five walks while allowing eight hits and four runs in 5 1-3 innings.

Reyes' 34th multihit game — tops in the majors — helped Jonathon Niese (6-5) win his third straight decision. Niese allowed two runs, five hits and no walks in 6 1-3 innings.

Dan Uggla's homer off Jason Istringhausen in the eighth cut the Mets' lead to 4-3.

Phillies 9, Marlins 1

At Philadelphia, Cole Hamels pitched seven dominant innings to become the National League's second nine-game winner and Domonic Brown hit two of Philadelphia's season-high five homers.

Hamels (9-2) allowed one run and three hits to tie teammate Roy Halladay and Boston's Jon Lester for most wins in the majors. He struck out six and walked one.

Hamels left the game in the eighth with tightness in the middle of his back.

Ryan Howard, Chase Utley and Jimmy Rollins hit two-run homers, and Brown had two solo shots to help Philadelphia win its fourth straight game.

Pirates 1, Astros 0

At Houston, Jeff Karstens allowed three hits into the seventh inning and five relievers finished Pittsburgh's four-hitter.

Garrett Jones drove in the game's only run with a single to right field in the second inning.

Karstens (4-4) struck out three and walked none in 6 2-3 innings. The right-hander is 1-0 with a 0.44 ERA in three starts in June and is working on a scoreless streak of 14 2-3 innings.

Joel Hanrahan pitched a perfect ninth for his 18th save.

Bud Norris (4-5) struck out nine batters in seven innings, yielding one run and six hits.

Rockies 6, Padres 3

At Denver, Juan Nicasio had a career-high nine strikeouts in six innings and Chris Iannetta hit a three-run homer as

Colorado ended a three-game losing streak.

Nicasio (2-1) gave up a leadoff homer to Chris Denorfia, but settled down and allowed six hits and walked one in his fourth start since being called up from minor league Double-A Tulsa.

Iannetta broke open a 3-2 game in the sixth by hitting his ninth homer of the season off reliever Pat Neshek.

Giants 6, Diamondbacks 5

At Phoenix, Cody Ross had a two-run double and scored on a double steal in the fifth inning to help San Francisco build a five-run lead over Arizona.

The Giants took advantage of an off-kilter Josh Collmenter (4-2) to lead 5-0 after five innings, but starter Matt Cain (6-4) nearly gave it all back over the next two.

Miguel Montero hit a three-run homer off the San Francisco right-hander in the sixth inning to make it 5-4 before Nate Schierholtz gave the Giants the extra cushion they needed with an RBI double in the seventh.

Closer Brian Wilson walked two and had a wild pitch with two outs in the ninth, but struck out Stephen Drew to close out his 19th save.

Reds 3, Dodgers 2

At Los Angeles, Johnny Cueto pitched seven sharp innings and Joey Votto hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth as Cincinnati edged Los Angeles.

Cueto (4-2) limited the Dodgers to an unearned run and five hits in beating them for the first time in five starts.

Logan Ondrusek pitched a scoreless eighth and Francisco Cordero got three outs for his 14th save in 16 chances and the 304th of his career, tying Jeff Montgomery for 19th place.

Cordero walked NL home run leader Matt Kemp with one out, then threw over to first base six times before Kemp stole second and scored on James Loney's single. But pinch-hitter Casey Blake struck out and Rod Barajas popped out with the potential tying run at second.

FBI wants tape of Hamilton-Armstrong meeting

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The FBI has contacted a Colorado restaurant to get surveillance tapes of a conversation between seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong and former teammate Tyler Hamilton over the weekend.

Armstrong and Hamilton ran into each other at a restaurant in Aspen on Saturday night, a few weeks after Hamilton went on "60 Minutes" and accused Armstrong of doping and encouraging his teammates to use performance-enhancing drugs as well.

Hamilton attorney Chris Manderson said his client was rattled by some of Armstrong's comments. "It was aggressive and intimidating and we thought it should be reported to federal investigators," Manderson told The Associated

Press on Tuesday.

Armstrong and one of his lawyers said the conversation was uneventful.

Jodi Lerner, co-owner of the restaurant called Cache Cache, said the FBI was coming Wednesday to take the restaurant's surveillance tapes. However, the tapes only capture the kitchen area and not the front of the restaurant where the incident occurred.

"I wish it was on surveillance to show it was a non-event," said Lerner, a friend of Armstrong's.

Federal officials are now in their second year of investigating doping in cycling. Armstrong is a target of their work and a Los Angeles-based grand jury is hearing evidence that could lead to charges of fraud, conspiracy and drug

trafficking against the cyclist and others on his Tour-winning teams.

Thom Mrozek, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office, and Laura Eimiller, a spokeswoman for the FBI's Los Angeles office, both declined comment.

Manderson said it was well known that Hamilton would be in Aspen; he believes Armstrong sought his fellow cyclist out for a confrontation.

"I don't think it was a coincidence," he said.

Armstrong told Outside Magazine the incident was "certainly awkward for both of us" and "truly uneventful."

Lerner said she didn't hear the conversation that lasted about five minutes but saw Hamilton try to hug Armstrong, who brushed him away.

"They didn't create a scene whatsoever," Lerner said. "Two guys talking in a bar. If that's an incident, wow."

Manderson said the two men hadn't spoken to one another in years, including recent weeks after Hamilton, an admitted drug-user, appeared on "60 Minutes." The Hamilton interview reasserted claims made a year earlier by Floyd Landis, another former teammate of Armstrong's who was later caught cheating.

Manderson declined to say whether Hamilton would appear before the grand jury again, but hopes federal authorities will interview some of the people in the bar who witnessed what occurred.

"I hope federal investigators interview the restaurant owner and those in Armstrong's entourage under penalty of perjury to force them to tell the truth about the incident," he said.

US beats Guadeloupe to advance in Gold Cup



KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP)—The United States is marching on in the Gold Cup.

It sure wasn't easy.

Jozy Altidore scored in the ninth minute off an assist from Michael Bradley, and the U.S. hung on to beat Guadeloupe 1-0 on Tuesday night and reach the tournament quarterfinals after a loss earlier in the group stage to Panama.

"With group play, you've got to deal with each game and find a way to advance," coach Bob Bradley said. "We're pretty hard on ourselves because we weren't satisfied with our performance against Panama, but there are things that bring a team together."

Panama won Group C with help from its 2-1 victory over the Americans, who pushed through as the second-place team. They'll face Group B winner Jamaica on Sunday in Washington, D.C.

The U.S. finish broke a string of 10 straight first-place results in group play.

"This was a game where at the end, we certainly feel we should have finished the game earlier," Bradley said. "We had good chances to get that second goal. Still, there were positives and now we get ready to move forward."

The U.S. needed only a draw to advance after Panama and Canada drew 1-1 in Tuesday night's early game. Altidore made that a moot point with his go-ahead drive from 25 yards, his second goal of the tournament.

"I was just able to get a little space," Altidore said. "It was a good goal."

Guadeloupe, a surprise semifinalist



USA attacker Jozy Altidore (17) is congratulated by teammate Clarence Goodson (21) following his goal against Guadeloupe during the first half of a Gold Cup soccer match in Kansas City, Kan., Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

four years ago, went winless in three games, all by one-goal margins. The

tiny island, a French possession in the Caribbean, is not a member of FIFA

and cannot take part in World Cup qualifications.

"We cannot keep playing that way and not have something to look forward to," said midfielder Stephane Auvray, who plays for Sporting Kansas City in Major League Soccer. "It's frustrating because now we have to go home and in two years start up with the same problems we have now."

The U.S. pressed its attack throughout the match and had several chances to add an insurance goal but was unable to convert any of them.

Clint Dempsey had the best opportunity in the 76th minute, when he wound up alone with a loose ball in front of the goal. Julien Ictoi took advantage of Dempsey's momentary hesitation and hooked the ball to goalkeeper Franck Grandel.

"I couldn't buy a goal tonight," Dempsey said.

The Americans, who started slowly and gave up an early goal in Saturday's 2-1 loss to Panama, nearly saw the same thing happen in the fourth minute Tuesday night.

Goalkeeper Tim Howard failed to control a ball on the goal line, and Landon Donovan's attempt to clear hit Dempsey and fell straight to Guadeloupe's Stephane Zubar. His shot from near the penalty spot hit the crossbar.

In the earlier game, Luis Tejada scored in the first minute of stoppage time during a scramble in front of goal, allowing Panama to escape with a draw against Canada.

The goal was originally credited to Blas Perez, but CONCACAF changed it midway through the nightcap between the U.S. and Guadeloupe. The result gave Panama seven points in Group C, while Canada was eliminated when Americans won their game.

LeBron James says he is 'not superior to anyone'



MIAMI (AP)—Everyone wanted the circus to end. That is, until the circus actually ended.

Such is life for the Miami Heat now, heading into the offseason.

A season of intense scrutiny, criticism, attention and intrigue ended without a championship, and while getting out of the spotlight for a while this summer may be of some consolation to LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh, nothing will completely soothe the fact that Year One of the Big Three ended with a loss in the NBA finals.

"There was really no way to prepare for a season like this," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said Tuesday, after Miami gathered for its exit meetings.

Even at the end, James found some of his words overly dissected and, he said, misinterpreted.

His offseason began with a clarification of something said after Sunday's night's season-ending loss to the new champion Dallas Mavericks, when part of his answer to a question about people being happy to see the Heat lose included the phrase "they have to wake up tomorrow and have the same life that they had before they woke up today. They have the same personal problems."

On Tuesday, James tried to clean up the mess he inadvertently created.

"Basically, I was saying, at the end of the day, this season is over and with all the hatred not only myself, everyone else has to move on with their lives as well," James said. "They have to move on with their lives and their day-to-day, good or bad, and I do, too. At the end of the day, I've got to move on with my life. So it wasn't saying that I'm superior or better than anyone else, any man or woman on this planet. I'm not."

James' fourth-quarter offensive struggles in the finals are still a talking point, even with the series now over and Dallas celebrating its crown. There were some reports Tuesday that he had skipped the team meetings for a vacation in the Bahamas. Privately, some team members told him at times during the season to stop paying attention to news reports about the team entirely.

"I always feel like LeBron does a great job of dealing with things," Wade said. "No one, no athlete gets scrutinized more than he does, for good or bad things. And I always commend him for the way he handles it. A lot of people can say a lot of things about him, but if you're not in his shoes, if you don't go through the things that he goes through than you don't under-

stand, you don't know how you would react to things and respond."

James offered some respect to the new champs later Tuesday. He posted a message on LeBronJames.com where he congratulated the Mavericks, especially Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Kidd and Jason Terry. He also lauded the Miami fans, teammates, coaches, team president Pat Riley and owner Micky Arison.

James closed the message with this: "A lot to learn from this year, a lot to build on, and a lot of work to do this summer."

That was largely the theme of Tuesday for the Heat.

"If you get to the finals," Wade said, "you're a pretty good team."

Udonis Haslem revealed that he's not 100 percent recovered from surgery to repair a ruptured foot ligament in November. Mike Miller will soon have surgery to repair his left thumb. In time, Miami will start making roster decisions. The Heat have the first pick in the second round of next week's draft, and will hold another workout for prospects on Wednesday.

Spoelstra said he's immersing himself in that work, not the lament of losing the title shot.

"We weren't able to get it done," Spoelstra said. "That's the disappointment that we'll have to live with this

summer. As disappointing as it is, the championship was won and now today starts the next day for the new challenge of next year's championship. Even for myself, it's back to work. There will be some time where we'll be able to decompress. The time is not now."

James and Wade are both planning trips to China this summer, along with some charitable events and camps. The uncertainty over the league's labor deal—the collective bargaining agreement expires in about two weeks, and a lockout could start as early as July 1—could make certain aspects of the summer more difficult than usual. Bosh will have some stressful moments as well: He's got a wedding planned for next month.

No one was thrilled to see it end, but Tuesday, they all said they enjoyed the ride.

"I had fun with this season. That's what it's about," James said. "There are times when you don't always have fun because losing is never fun, pitfalls are never fun, but at the end of the day, the game of basketball should always be fun when we approach the court from the bus to the locker room to the plane. It's definitely up there with one of the best seasons I've had as far as individually and as a team. But, no, I won't have enough fun until I'll be able to hoist that trophy."

"Our goal before the start of this tournament was to come out on top of our group," said Panamanian coach Julio Dely Valdes. "Now that we have done that, our goal is to go as far as possible in the Gold Cup and essentially win the whole thing."

Dwayne De Rosario converted a penalty kick in the 62nd minute for Canada, which would have secured a quarterfinal berth had it been able to hold on for the victory.

Panama, which played back and counterattacked for the first 60 minutes, turned up the pressure late in the match and missed several good chances before finally forcing the draw.

"I don't think we did a good enough job of keeping the ball and making them work to get it," Canadian coach Stephen Hart said. "They were throwing numbers forward and we just couldn't get a hold of the ball for any period of time. Unfortunately, what happened, happened."

NFL, NFLPA negotiators meet again, push for deal



NEW YORK (AP)—Don't break out the tailgate gear just yet. An end to the NFL lockout might not be imminent.

It does appear much closer than at any point in the last three months, though.

Recent progress in labor talks between the league and players has sparked a new sense of optimism, and team owners have been told to be ready to extend their one-day meetings in Chicago next week.

The two sides made progress in labor negotiations held Tuesday at an undisclosed location in Maryland. Those talks will go through at least Wednesday and quite possibly to the end of the week.

A person with knowledge of the talks told The Associated Press that finalizing an agreement by next week's owners' meetings is unlikely. But a framework for a new collective bargaining deal could be presented in Chicago, with further tweaking extending the work stoppage until the end of the month.

A new CBA could be in place before the July 4th weekend, the person added, speaking on condition of anonymity because details of the meeting are not being made public.

Another person familiar with the talks told the AP that the owners and players are "headed in the right direction" and that lawyers "are back in the room" after being excluded from sessions the past two weeks.

Previous "secret" meetings have taken place in Chicago and New York. Such sessions have been critical in past NFL negotiations, dating back to the 1980s.

Still, it would be premature to predict that lockout is about to end, the people familiar with the talks told the AP. Yet the atmosphere of negotiations has been more positive than it was previously, creating "a sense of movement," they said.

Morales: Marquez ripe for a beating vs Pacquiao

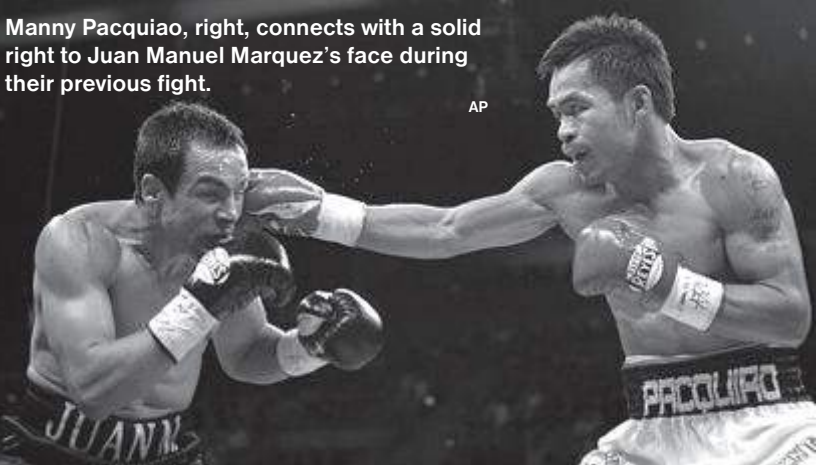


MANILA, Philip-pines — Erik “El Terrible” Morales feels fellow Mexican great Juan Manuel Marquez is in for a beating when he tangles with pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao for the third time on Nov. 12 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

“I see Marquez being weary and getting physically hurt,” Morales told BoxingScene.com Sunday. “But anything can happen in boxing so we have to wait for the fight.”

The 34-year-old Morales, who was stopped by Pacquiao in the last two bouts of their trilogy, put up a gutsy stand in losing closely to Marcos Maidana last month and is angling to forge a fourth showdown with the Filipino ring icon.

A former five-time world champion, Morales was supposed to face Marquez in April, but the fight eventually fizzled out, forcing Morales to take on the



Manny Pacquiao, right, connects with a solid right to Juan Manuel Marquez's face during their previous fight.

younger, bigger, stronger Maidana.

In a recent interview with bleacher report.com, Morales admitted that Pacquiao has improved a lot and has worked on things to prove a terror against bigger opponents in the welter-weight division.

Pacquiao's first two fights against Marquez ended inconclusively. The

first was a draw in 2004 despite Pacquiao knocking down the Mexican three times in the first round. Pacquiao won the rematch by split decision in 2008, mainly due to a third-round knockdown.

Since then, however, Pacquiao has turned into a well-rounded and stronger fighter, dominating the likes of Miguel

Cotto, Joshua Clottey, Antonio Margarito and Shane Mosley in succession.

Though deemed a mismatch from the start, Pacquiao-Mosley was able to draw over 1.3 million pay-per-view buys, the highest-ever for the eight-division world champion, and \$8,882,600 at the gates, prompting revered promoter Bob Arum to declare that Showtime gets the right to negotiate first for Pacquiao-Marquez III.

Just like Morales, rated by ESPN ahead of Mike Tyson in its Greatest Boxers of All-Time list, Hall of Fame trainer Freddie Roach believes his prized ward will finally be able to stop Marquez.

“I know the guy (Marquez) will be very game, but I think this time Manny will be way too strong for him,” Roach told OnTheGrindBoxing Radio on Monday. “I’m going to urge Manny to put the pressure on this guy and get him out of there so there is no doubt.” **(PDI)**

SBA June roll-offs set this weekend



Saipan Bowling Association will have its June roll-offs this weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.

The June Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tournament will take place on Saturday and Sunday, while the Prince/Princess of the Lanes will be played only on Sunday.

As usual, participants in the King and Queen roll-offs can bowl on both days, but only the higher score will be counted to determine the winners of the June titles. Only the first 60 bowlers to register will compete in men's division and prizes will depend on the number of entries. The women's division will have separate prizes only if at least 10 keglers join the competition.

Entry fee is only \$15 for the adults roll-offs and \$10 for the youth. All participants must also pay the \$15 SBA annual fee.

For more information, contact Gigi or Ross Zapanta at 288-5627. **(PR)**

JONES

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“Raffy is now the No. 1 U18 player in the North Pacific,” Race added.

Jones is also assured of a slot on the North Pacific Team that will compete in the 2011 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji.

Meanwhile, most of the CNMI junior netters were still unstoppable in Tuesday action of the NPQ, as all six entries of the Commonwealth in the boys U15 singles made it to the quarterfinals.

Leading the six CNMI bets in the Elite 8 were Christian Miller and Amami Sakano, who went

unbeaten in three games after two days of competition. Miller complete a sweep of his Pool A matches after beating Guam's Ryan Freeman in Day 2, 6-0, 6-0, while Sakano also topped Pool B and finished with a 3-0 card, following a 6-2, 6-0 triumph over Guam's Joshua Cepeda.

Joining the two top pool finishers to the next round were teammates Seiya Eda, Chris Cajigan, Angelo Jones, and Jake Lee.

Eda placed second in Pool A with his 2-1 record, winning his last pool match against Guam's Jeremiah Nelsen, 6-4, 6-3. Lee and Cajigan finished 1 and 2 in Pool B with the former getting a 3-0 card after defeating Guam's Jonathan Toves, 6-0, 6-0. Cajigan had back-to-back wins in

Day 2, thumping Toves, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1, and whipping Andrew Chung, also from Guam, 6-2, 6-4, to recover from his Day 1 loss to Lee, 3-6, 4-6.

Angelo Jones clinched the last quarterfinals berth in the boys U15 after prevailing in a three-way tie for second place in Pool C. Jones had a 1-2 record, the same mark Guam's David Okuhama and Palau's Jacob Spis Senior had. However, in the tie-break, Jones logged a 24-28 set won-lost record, which bested Okuhama's 19-34 and Spis' 17-34. The Federated State of Micronesia's T.J. Rush topped Pool D with his 3-0 slate.

In the round-robin girls U15, Mikayla Lopez moved a win away from sweeping the pre-

liminaries after notching two more wins in Day 2. Lopez beat teammate Alina Ishikawa, 6-0, 6-0, and Guam's Alyssa Bristol, 6-0, 6-2, for a 4-0 record. Lopez was set to face FSM's Shawn Adams yesterday and a win will ensure the CNMI netter a semis seat in Pool A.

In Pool B, Melody Johnson also kept her record clean after Day 2. She defeated teammate Jazmin Rayphand, 6-1, 6-1, and Guam's Camden Nadler, 7-5, 6-4, for a 4-0 mark. Johnson dueled FSM's Margaret Finnen yesterday and she must win to avoid a semis collision with Lopez.

In the girls U18, top seed Thea Minor went 3-0 after downing FSM's Amanda Hawkins, 6-1,

6-1, and sister Theecel, 6-1, 6-2, on Tuesday. Thea Minor leads the seven-player field and the top finisher in the age group will be determined once the round-robin competition is completed. Theecel holds an even 2-2 mark.

In the boys U12, four CNMI bets advanced to the quarterfinals.

Carl Dela Cruz, Colin Ramsey, and Moris Vllanueva ruled their respective pools to make it to the quarterfinals. Dela Cruz won two games in Day 2 to finish Pool A with a 3-0 slate. Also posting an unbeaten record was Ramsey, who defeated teammate Michael Jones and Guam's Edward Chung in Pool B. Villanueva reigned in Pool

C, winning his third game over Guam's Mason Cadwell. Michael Ren had a 2-1 record in Pool D to join his teammates in the next round.

In the girls U12, defending champion Negahr Rastguiy kept her bid for back-to-back titles alive after improving to a 3-0 record. Rastguiy got her third win against teammate Tammy Ackerman on Tuesday to fall behind by only one victory against Palau's Ayana Rengiil (4-0). Ackerman holds 3-1 card as after losing to Rastguiy, she recovered with a 6-0, 6-1 win over FSM's Jennia Panuelo. Carol Lee also won in Day 2 against FSM's Sunshin Palik, 6-0, 6-0, to move up to a 2-1 mark.

LEAN

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bee Mendoza.

“Obviously, this number is a big challenge. We have limited players,” said coach Ed Manalili, who will be assisted by former CNMI Nationals Quincy Johnson.

The CNMI Boys U15 Team ended up with only seven players after three failed to complete

the required documents.

“We just lost them three weeks into the tournament. Now, we have to find ways to offset that disadvantage. Our plan is to concentrate more on defense and play a slow down offense. The team can run, but we have to pace ourselves, as we don't have a deep bench,” Manalili said.

“We will just go out there and execute what we have been practicing for the past three

months,” the head coach added.

Manalili said on offense, they will lean on Mizer at the paint. Mizer is the tallest player on the team at 5'10”. The Saipan Southern High School forward played in the 2009-2010 season of the MISO caging and also saw action in the various youth leagues on Saipan.

Beefing up the Commonwealth's offense are shooting guards Palacios and Ankie Manalili. Both played for the

Rollers and G-Stars in the various youth leagues on Saipan. The rest of the team are newcomers.

Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands vice president Elias Rangamar, who is helping out in training the U15 teams, said they are not putting much pressure on the youth cagers representing the CNMI to MBT.

“We don't really know what to expect. We have no clue

on the make up of Palau and Guam's teams whether they have the height or they can run. We hope to progress as we play each team then make adjustments during the play-offs,” Rangamar said.

Both Palau and Guam are fielding two teams in the boys U15 division, while Pohnpei will not be sending any teams to MBT.

Team Palau will have a 10-player roster with Ziske Asanuma as head coach and Jesse Sumor assisting him. Team Belau listed only nine players and will also be coached by Sumor and Asanuma as coaches.

Guam has yet to announce its rosters and coaches for the MBT that will run from June 20 to 24 at the Palau National Stadium in Koror.

STRONG

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shooter Kaylani Lebria, and forwards Denise Samson and Kyla Ito. Completing the team are Kriz Gozon, Melody Johnson, Carey Demapan, and Theodora Falcon.

“This is a team that can run and at the same shoot from outside,” Camacho said.

Castillo and Abrams both

played for the MHS Lady Dolphins who topped the MISO caging last season. Lebria and Demapan suited up for the Mt. Carmel School Lady Knights, who finished runner-up in the private school caging. The rest of the team played basketball in their respective schools. The group has been practicing for more than two months.

“The girls have been playing scrimmages with older, faster,

and bigger high school players in MISO so they are in good condition. I believe we will be able to bring home a medal,” Camacho added.

Camacho's wards will be battling two teams from Palau and one from Guam. Both Team Palau and Team Belau have an 11-player roster, while Guam's lineup has yet to be posted at the tournament's website.

The CNMI cagebells will

leave for Palau Friday and will be joined by the seven-player CNMI U15 Boys Team and some BANMI officials.

The MBT U15 caging is the first series of regional competitions Micronesian Basketball Confederation will be hosting in the next four years, leading up to the 2014 Micronesian Games in Pohnpei. There will be separate tournaments for U17 and U19 age groups.

In the two three-set matches, Montano and June Padua survived Bartolome and Abuel in the women's B doubles, 21-19, 17-21, 21-20, and Anna Omori and Michelle Caleon thwarted Anna Alvarez and Shirley Kim in the women's A doubles, 21-12, 18-21, 21-16.

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were all women's A doubles games. The lone three-set match at Court B had Zapanta and Rose Lazaro edging Elma Labuson and Jaja Samonte in

the women's doubles, 15-21, 21-15, 21-18.

Over at Court A, two games went the distance, while four ended only in two sets. Recording sweeps were sisters Lani Bartolome and Lot Abuel against Villaflor and Melanie Santos in the women's B

doubles, 21-11, 21-10; Alvin Alvarez over Aries Cordero in the men's B2 sigles, 21-16, 21-9; Mahesh Balakrishna versus Daniel Choi in the men's C singles, 21-16, 21-19; and Irish Pagarao against Roma Barlaio in the women's C singles, 21-20, 21-20.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	39	27	.591	—
New York	37	28	.569	1 1/2
Tampa Bay	36	31	.537	3 1/2
Toronto	33	34	.493	6 1/2
Baltimore	30	34	.469	8
Central Division				
Detroit	37	30	.552	—
Cleveland	35	30	.538	1
Chicago	33	35	.485	4 1/2
Kansas City	30	37	.448	7
Minnesota	26	39	.400	10
West Division				
Texas	36	32	.529	—
Seattle	34	34	.500	2
Los Angeles	33	36	.478	3 1/2
Oakland	28	40	.412	8
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Philadelphia	40	26	.606	—
Atlanta	38	29	.567	2 1/2
Florida	32	33	.492	7 1/2
New York	32	34	.485	8
Washington	30	36	.455	10
Central Division				
Milwaukee	38	29	.567	—
St. Louis	38	29	.567	—
Cincinnati	35	33	.515	3 1/2
Pittsburgh	32	33	.492	5
Chicago	26	39	.400	11
Houston	25	42	.373	13
West Division				
San Francisco	37	29	.561	—
Arizona	37	30	.552	1/2
Colorado	31	35	.470	6
Los Angeles	31	37	.456	7
San Diego	30	38	.441	8
Yesterday's Games				
Detroit 4, Cleveland 0				
N.Y. Yankees 12, Texas 4				
Toronto 6, Baltimore 5, 11 innings				
Tampa Bay 4, Boston 0				
Chicago White Sox at Minnesota, ppd., rain				
Kansas City 7, Oakland 4				
L.A. Angels 4, Seattle 0				

2011 Marianas National Championships

Photos by ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Runners make their turn during the 200m race in the 2011 Marianas National Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex late last month.



The CNMI's Clayton Kenty, right, at the starting block for the 400m hurdles.



Michael Mancao leaps during the boys long jump.



Two Guam Central Athletics Club athletes negotiate the hurdles.



Tony Ichiou runs in the 200m race.



Ron Olopai gets ready for the hammer throw event.



Chris Mizer warms up for the boys long jump.



Eddie Manalili throws the hammer.



Guam Central Athletics Club's Serra Daughtry competes in the 400m hurdles.



**US beats
Guadeloupe
to advance
in Gold Cup**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Verlander flirts
with no-hitter,
Tigers top Tribe**



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011

Jones rules U18 singles in NPQ

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Rafael Jones clinched the boys U18 singles crown he missed last year after surviving Guam's Emil Penafiel in a three-set finale in the 2011 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament yesterday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Center in Guam.

Jones lost the opening set, 3-6, but redeemed himself in the last two sets, 7-5, 6-3, to finish the round-robin tournament with a perfect 3-0 record. Jones' two other wins came from Guam's Alexander Ornbø, 6-3, 6-1, and Kenta Tanimoto, 6-2, 6-1.

In his third match that went the distance, Jones showed a lot of heart, as he battled fatigue and cramps to win the tough match in front of a home crowd.



"I am very proud of Raffy for showing such mental toughness. He went out there cramping in the third set and won a very tight game," CNMI coach Jeff Race said.

Jones battled Penafiel for more than three hours and won the championship he lost to Guam's Martin Lai last year, 3-6, 0-6.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Rafael Jones, seen here in action in a local tournament at the AMP tennis courts, topped the U18 singles event in the 2011 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament at the Rick Ninete Tennis Center in Guam.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of the CNMI U15 Boys Team pose for a group photo with head coach Ed Manalili, standing left, and assistant coach Quincy Johnson, standing right, during a break in their training session yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Lean boys U15 team off to Palau

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



A seven-man CNMI Boys U15 Team will be competing in the revived Micronesian Basketball Tournament in Koror, Palau next week.

The short list is composed of Christian Mizer, Jaymie Sanarez, Ankie Manalili, Josephus Aguilar, Jacob Palacios, Christopher Cepeda, and Ko-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of the CNMI U15 Girls Team pose for a group photo during a break in their practice yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Also in the photo are coaches Connie Camacho, standing left, and Lia Rangamar, standing right.

Strong starting five for girls MBT squad

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI U15 Girls Team will be pinning its hopes on a formidable starting five when the 2011 Micronesian Basketball Tournament in Palau kicks off next week.

"We have only nine players, but our starting five is strong," head coach Connie Camacho said.

Camacho, who will be assisted by former CNMI Women's Nationals Lia Rangamar, is talking of point guard Jeraldine Castillo, center Rachel Abrams,

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Back-to-back victories for Arago and Revilla

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Ferdie Arago and John Revilla recorded back-to-back wins in the men's A doubles event in the 2011 IT&E Singles/Doubles Badminton Tournament on Sunday night at the TSL Sports Complex to return on track for a playoffs spot.

The duo dropped its first two games, but recovered big time with twin victories last weekend. Arago and Revilla won over Edwin Montoya and Roger Vales, 21-16, 21-12, and then had another straight set triumph over the

tandem of Victor Regis and Macoi Aguda, 21-12, 21-14, to improve to an even 2-2 card.

With their two victories, Arago and Revilla moved up to second place in the team standings in Group A of the men's A doubles behind leader Gary Bandoja and Oh Imbog (2-1).

Imbog and Bandoja gained their second win in three games after slipping past Hapi Gabriel and Ezekiel Macario in a three-set game at Court 3, 21-16, 16-21, 21-19. Gabriel and Macario fell to a 1-1 mark.

Other results at Court 3 saw Saul Gargalo beating Mario Diola in their men's B1 singles game, 21-20, 21-20 and Diola recovering against Joseph Santos, 21-14, 21-14. Diola now

has a 2-1 record, while Gargalo remained unbeaten at 2-0. Santos dropped to a 1-2 slate.

At Court B, five of the six matches resulted in sweeps. In the men's B doubles, Bandoja and Narlou Achas downed Rodwealth Espana and Luis Camacho, 21-18, 21-10; Kim Boranah topped Elna Curate in the women's C singles, 21-10, 21-10; Hannah Choi and So Young Lee whipped Malou Malasarte and Cris Obaldo, 21-8, 21-18; Loyda Ito and Cristy Villaflor prevailed over Angie Ito and Gigi Zapanta, 21-17, 21-14; and Marlene Pereja and Lani Bartolome defeated Marylyn Montano and Cheng Saturno, 21-12, 21-18. The last three matches at Court B

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Ferdie Arago is seen here getting ready to receive a serve during an earlier badminton tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO